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OUTWEEK EXCLUSIVE

RITTER'S ACCUSER SPEAKS

Kevin Kite On
Sex, Betrayal and
Covenant House

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Keep your laws off our bodies. Page 16.

Photo: Evett Bennett

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Photo: T.L. Litt

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Photo: Tom Brazil.



OUTSPOKEN

The Window of Opportunity

The election of David Dinkins has presented New York's gay and lesbian community with a rare opportunity to take an active role in shaping public policy around the issue of AIDS. Unfortunately, we've neglected to take full advantage of that opportunity. Numerous calls from Dinkins' transition team to prominent AIDS workers and activists to seek help in searching for a new health commissioner apparently were ignored. As a result, a major error almost occurred in the selection of an unsympathetic, unqualified, frightening candidate.

The selection process has been unusually open under Mr. Dinkins. His deputies have scoured the nation for the best possible candidates and canvassed the city for input from a broad range of groups. How, then, did Mr. Dinkins' search team come up with Woodrow Augustus Myers, Jr., whose record in Indiana includes support for mandatory name reporting, contact tracing and quarantining, and who seems almost universally reviled by the leaders of Indiana's gay, AIDS and civil liberties groups?

Part of the answer can be found in New York's city charter, which requires candidates for health commissioner to have eight years' experience running a public health department in addition to possessing an MD and either an MBA or an MPH. Such stringent requirements severely limit the field of candidates, and amending those requirements should become a goal of AIDS activists.

But there is no escaping the fact that there was a major failure among gay and AIDS groups around the selection process. ACT UP, GMHC and AmFar, among others, share blame for what still could be a serious public policy fiasco. After all the agony and time wasted struggling against Stephen Joseph, what single more important issue faced our community at the dawn of the Dinkins era than the naming of a new health commissioner? Where were we? Why were we not active in searching out candidates, investigating the ones who emerged, building coalitions with people of color over this issue and generally assisting in the process?

Some say such things are the job of the mayor's people, and that they simply should have done better. Others wish to scapegoat the one gay man who was a member of the search team and who didn't blow the whistle on Myers. But haven't we learned that policy makers will never take our needs into full account unless we're all there to make sure they do? Haven't we realized that no one gay person, no matter how well intentioned, can possibly speak for us all? Haven't we learned that coalitions with other minorities don't just happen, that we have to make them happen? And didn't we struggle to elect Mr. Dinkins precisely so that we would be on the inside, making policy, instead of on the outside, fighting against it?

Perhaps the long twilight of exclusion gays felt under Koch and Joseph have left us feeling permanently outside. If so, let's get over it. Dinkins wants our input. He wants our help and advice. He fundamentally agrees with us on most public health issues. He offers a way to build bridges on issues of importance between lesbians and gays, women and people of color. It's what we fought for. Let's take advantage of it. ▼

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LETTERS

Humm's Response

Victor Mendolia, attacking me for my open criticism of the small segment of the Dec. 10 demonstrators who disrupted mass at St. Pat's, calls me a "traitor" and "extremely dangerous." Yet Mendolia himself appeared on WOR-TV news within a day of the demonstration saying that he was sorry for the actions inside the cathedral and that he would have preferred "a silent protest."

As host of "The Gay Week in Review" on Gay Cable Network, I did indeed sponsor a debate on the demo tactics prior to Dec. 10th, but ACT UP, Dignity and WHAMI pulled out at the last minute with Michael Petrelis alone on the program. There was public disagreement on tactics prior to the demo. How is this not an appropriate topic for a gay news analysis show? People planning on going to the demo were entitled to know what was planned and why.

Mendolia says that ACT UP is committed to non-violence. Good. But there was a meeting in the late spring or early summer of 1988 when a divided ACT UP voted not to embrace total non-violence, i.e., passive resistance. It was felt that if physically attacked, we should not be bound to a non-violent response.

Mendolia characterizes the Coalition of Lesbian and Gay Rights, with whom I work, as "ragtag" and asserts that we claim "100 member groups." We make claims to neither fashionableness nor 100 groups. But CLGR is the only city organization sending a professional lobbyist to Albany to work for gay and lesbian rights. We also are spearheading the

drive for domestic partners legislation in the city council and convene the Task Force on Homeless PWAs.

Ian Daniels Horst calls me "a backstabbing Uncle Tom," "a good gay," and a "collaborator." I made it clear in all contacts with the press on this issue that CLGR was and is in full support of the goals of the ACT UP demo. (I said as much to the Times reporter who profiled ACT UP last week. They weren't interested in anything positive we had to say, however, so took an out-of-context quote from another newspaper from me.) We sponsored the first demo versus O'Connor when he came to the city and regard him as a bigot. I do not seek

the approval of the church, press or political establishment. I will not be silent, however, when the gay and lesbian movement is seen as endorsing abrogation of the right to worship. That may be an abstract principle to some. It is part of the set of rights to which we have successfully appealed to make the AIDS crisis a lot less worse than it could have been. As the AIDS crisis worsens—and when it is over—we should all want that structure of rights in place (plus some new ones such as universal health care, an end to anti-gay and anti-lesbian discrimination, full reproductive freedom and more).

I have tremendous admiration for the power, energy and dedication of ACT UP and have never questioned the motives of the people who demonstrated inside St. Patrick's. Can

we not disagree on tactics without degenerating into name-calling? Does ACT UP wish to silence anyone who questions its actions?

In the aftermath of Dec. 10, most of the debate has centered on who is worse—the Cardinal or the demonstrators? Yet no one in the gay/lesbian community criticizing the disruption of mass has any sympathy for the Cardinal. We need to move on to a discussion of what actions and tactics will gain us what we all are united in seeking—a swift and humane end to the AIDS crisis.

Andy Humm
Manhattan

Grass Roots Religion

As a Jewish lesbian currently enrolled in a rabbinical program at one of the liberal seminaries, I have been following with great interest

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



SARAH MISTAKENLY THOUGHT THAT AFTER SHE BROKE UP WITH JOY THEY COULD REMAIN FRIENDS.

OutWeek's recent coverage of religious issues—particularly the debate over the ACT UP/WHAMI demonstration at St. Patrick's Cathedral and the ordination of the openly

split I felt by dedicating myself to what has always been the key to religious survival: Grassroots change.

No, it ain't necessarily so—the traditions can and

which do outreach to the lesbian and gay community are functioning in cities throughout the nation. Homosexual as well as heterosexual clergy are speaking out on this previously taboo subject. Clearly the battle has only just begun, and many obstacles still block the road to acceptance. But remember: We who grew up in synagogues and churches are insiders; and as such, we have every right—indeed we are obligated—to push for more change, by being present and vocal and visible. From within our traditions, and not from without, we must have the courage to act up.

Sonia Tiller
Brooklyn, NY

stated that AIDS is 99 percent gay and IV drug user, totally unwilling to acknowledge the changing infection pattern and thus the risk to heterosexuals. Parents need to understand that the Catholic Church is endangering the lives of their sons and daughters, not gay men and women. On the contrary, the gay community has a great deal of knowledge and skills that could be adopted by the heterosexual community to prevent the further spread of AIDS. Ignorance and complacency are the enemies. We need a lifelong commitment to education until a cure is available. Furthermore, given the increase in the number of cases in the heterosexual community, heterosexuals need to understand that better treatments and a cure for AIDS is in everyone's best interest, not just the gay community.

In addition, the Catholic Church affects the gay community in at least two additional ways. First, people who are in the process of "coming out"—especially teenagers and young adults—are at high risk because they don't have the necessary information, which is readily available to the gay community, that can help them adopt safe sex practices to protect them from infection of the AIDS virus. The Catholic Church has the ability to reach these people, but has decided to do nothing.

In addition, the Catholic Church's homophobia helps to create an environment in which families find it more difficult to openly discuss sexual choices and practices especially when they are homosexual. Tragically, families, who were unable to communicate honestly with a gay son or daughter, are now forced by AIDS to confront the very factors that divided them—their fears and prejudices of gays which are reinforced by the Catholic Church. Yet why should AIDS and the threat of impending death have to force families to com-



Photo: T.L. Litt

gay priest Reverend Robert Williams by the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. I was glad to read your most recent editorial "It Ain't Necessarily So," and I would like to add a few personal reflections regarding lesbian and gay participation in the synagogue and in all Jewish and Christian communal settings.

True—it ain't necessarily so that religion must condemn homosexuality, ostracize lesbians and gay men and forever transmit traditions which breed homophobia. However, we cannot deny the fact that both Judaism and Christianity have over the millennia used misogynist texts to promote patriarchy and a rigid fettering of all sexuality, especially that of women and gay men. When I began the process of coming out, I began a painful wrestling with this aspect of my own Jewish tradition. How could I be a rabbi, embracing Judaism—and at the same time be a self-affirming lesbian, radically rejecting Judaism's system of sexual mores? Yet I have chosen to be both. I have mended the

do change. They respond to pressures from within and without, and reluctantly they adapt to the demands of their day. For example: Today, the role of women in Judaism is greater than ever before—we serve as rabbis and cantors, we are a moving force in congregational activity and we are redefining theology so that it enables people to live in a more egalitarian world with a more imminent God.

There is only one way for lesbians and gay men to end religion's heinous treatment of homosexuals—we must be actively present and involved. If we opt out, nothing will improve; yet, I have met so many who have completely rejected their religious community as a result of their sense of outsidership. While this is understandable, we must remember: Opting out serves only the goals of our oppressors. In the Jewish community, in response to demands from the grassroots, the Reconstructionist and Reform movements are progressing toward more welcoming postures. Congregations

Caution! Straights Ahead

Although I supported the ACT UP/WHAMI protest at St. Patrick's Cathedral I don't feel the Catholic Church's unwillingness to endorse condom use or safe sex is negatively effecting the gay community simply because the vast majority of gays do not rely on the Catholic Church for safe sex education or support. The church's homophobia has alienated the majority of gays and therefore the church doesn't influence their behavior.

Unfortunately, the heterosexual community isn't as lucky. Cardinal O'Connor's unwillingness to respond to the risk of AIDS by advocating the use of condoms and safe sex rather than abstinence is a far greater risk to heterosexuals by giving them a false sense of security. The latest figures from the CDC prove this point—the rate of new AIDS cases being reported is increasing for heterosexuals. Yet, Cardinal O'Connor at the Vatican Conference on AIDS last month inaccurately

municate when it is too late to stop the destruction of AIDS?

Lastly, in terms of the ACT UP demonstration inside St. Pat's Cathedral—it was unfortunate that everyone focused on the extreme behavior of a few people and totally avoided the larger issue of the church's homophobia and its effect on our community. Everyone from Koch to Dinkins was duped into believing Cardinal O'Connor's outrage at the ACT UP demonstration for "violating the rights of people to worship" when Cardinal O'Connor has denied this same right to the gay Catholic community for over two and a half years. Dignity, the gay Catholic organization, has been denied the right to worship as a group in the Catholic Church and instead must use the Episcopalian Church, the Gay Community Center or the sidewalk outside St. Pat's Cathedral where the Cathedral Project holds monthly services in protest.

John N. Calve
Fishkill, NY

Who Really Wrote This Letter, Mr. Ball?

I have been hoping from about the very first that Mr. Bradley Ball would be allotted more space in your magazine—another page at least—and now I read, in that unattractive gray box (called, as I've learned from Mr. Ball, an "insert box"; just one small example of the amazing breadth of the man's knowledge—knowledge which he unflinchingly shares with us his readers, while you, you "editors" and "journalists," continually bombard us with mere opinion and attitude), and now I read that you would wish to take away more space from dear Brad? And you think we, his loyal readers, his followers, will support you in your foolish desires?

Less of "Out of my



Hands"? Are you out of your minds?

Alvin C. Trupp
A simple fan

The Poverty Train

In response to your article, "Government Benefits for PWAs":

Your figures are misleading. As a PWA receiving SSI and DAS, let me explain the program. The total combined benefits of DAS + SSI = \$312 per month. The \$312 must cover food, ConEd, phone, car fare, vitamins and anything you can't get on Medicaid. The program does not include food

stamps through DAS.

SSI supplies \$10 per month in food stamps, period.

I have applied directly to the Food Stamp office twice in 1989 and was denied on the grounds that my DAS benefits included my food allowance.

We are dealing with a disease that requires optimum nutritional maintenance.

I am forced to choose between ConEd or Pathmark.

The issue of PWAs forced to live below the poverty level must be addressed.

A PWA
Manhattan

Praise God and Pass the Wafers

The Church uses Holy Communion as a weapon, and desecrates it more than what the wafer smasher at St. Pat's has done. My lover and I were denied communion after coming out to our congregation. The pastor (of St. Matthews Lutheran Hastings-on-Hudson) told us that as homosexuals we are out-

side the grace of God and that until we repented of our homosexuality, we would have to withhold ourselves from the communion table. We went up to the front of the church anyway, to stand and pray and be passed by with the Body and Blood of Christ. On other occasions we went to the table, but turned our backs on the pastor before he passed us by. This was a powerful experience, not just for us but for the congregation members who we know and love. Some cried, some turned away. Politicizing the altar is not comfortable, but necessary. Much more civil disobedience needs to be done at churches.

Jeffrey Halvorsen
Dobbs Ferry, NY

GLAAD To Do It

Regarding "Roseanne's 'Faggy' Dilemma," GLAAD lists several celebrities that may be approachable to do pro-gay public service

Blurt Out

IS YOUR FREUDIAN SLIP SHOWING?

According to the *Daily News'* Liz Smith, Patti Davis "is reportedly spending time closeted with tell-all biographer Kitty Kelley for the latter's book on Nancy Reagan."

WHO WRITES THIS CRAP?

The following sidebar-from-hell accompanied *Newsweek's* January 15 cover story on Manuel Noriega. It bore the title, "A Walk on the Bisexual Side":

"Even while Noriega's power was growing, the bisexual side of his personality began to emerge...The macho officer, proficient in judo and parachuting, would perfume himself heavily on off hours and wear yellow jump suits with yellow shoes, travel the world with a male pal with whom he was rumored to be having a torrid affair, and surround himself with openly gay ambassadors and advisers. One friend of Noriega's says he liked homosexual advisers because they were easier to blackmail, but one of his gay advisers explains the attraction otherwise—"He is a spiritual and soft man and likes to be around spiritual and soft people." Noriega would joke that the only Panamanians without balls were the men—"the queers and the women are the only courageous ones." Armchair psychiatrists credit Noriega's sexual confusion to his gay brother, Luis Carlos Noriega, the only person Noriega ever trusted completely."

If Macho Officer (Judo and Parachuting) - [Perfume + Yellow Jumpsuit and Shoes + Sexual Confusion (Gay Brother)] = Soft People, then how do you spell Hard Journalism?

—Sarah Pettit



announcements—may I suggest a few more?

Liz Smith, Iris Love, Jerry Zipkin, Halston, Freddie Mercury (of Queen), Rod McKuen, the Pet Shop Boys, Judd Nelson, Stephen Sondheim, Tommy Tune, Morton Gottlieb (B'way producer), Sigfried & Roy, Lou Reed, David Bowie, Mick Jagger, David Johansen (Buster Poindexter,

NY Dolls), Dr. Ruth Westheimer, Charles Busch, Nick Ashford, Rex Reed, Alan Carr, Jim J. Bullock, Charles Nelson Reilly, Jim Nabors, Carl Lewis, Tracy Chapman, Melissa Etheridge, the Manhattan Transfer and Richard Simmons.

...just a few that may be "approached?"

Kim Barget
Manhattan

Republican Decorum

It's simply amazing. The mayoral election is not even a faint memory and already revisionists have emerged to rewrite the facts. I am referring to Michael Flynn's letter appearing in the *OutWeek* of January 7.

Hiding behind the debate over ACT UP and WHAM!s action at St. Pat's, Flynn attempts to distort the

facts about Giuliani and a zap that took place at the Liberal Party dinner. As a participant in that zap I could not let Flynn's lies go unanswered.

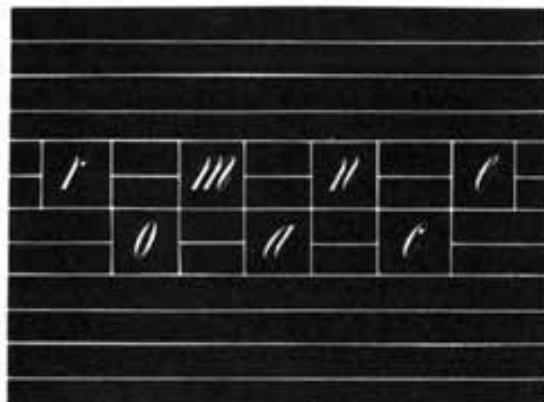
The facts are simple. At the beginning of the campaign ACT UP attempted to meet with both Dinkins and Giuliani, to explain our concerns over AIDS care in the city. Rudy refused to meet with us. This is the same man who started off his relationship with our community by coming out against bereavement rights for domestic partners.

As Rudy continued to parade his ignorance on our issues things seemed to be getting only worse. At various protests we held, ACT UP members were being verbally and physically attacked by Rudy's overzealous supporters. Not a pretty sight.

One wonders if Flynn even read Giuliani's position paper that he bragged about. After many months of us hounding him he finally released this paper in the final weeks of the campaign. It was full of sections that had been lifted from our fliers, word for word.

When word of the big dinner arrived some of us were prepared to protest by handing out fact sheets on what the city needs to do in the fight against AIDS. As we arrived in the ballroom we were set upon by a mob of screaming enraged Rudyites.

I was attacked from behind with punches and kicks. One woman threw a glass of water at me, while another grabbed my tie and attempted to strangle me. All the time we were screaming, "no violence, no violence" and trying



to make it to the door. The injury I feigned as witnessed by Flynn was done out of desperation to keep the crowds back from us so we could get out of there in one piece.

I find it amazing that Flynn witnessed this and did not attempt to come to our aid. Even when we were finally thrown out of the ballroom we were shoved by the throng. I saw Roger Ailes grab one of the smallest amongst us and put him in a strangle hold as he attempted to push him down a flight of stairs. We were only saved by the arrival of hotel security who kept the crowd back as we escaped.

I'm sure the life of a gay republican is not an easy one. However the question remains as to why Flynn felt so obligated to alter the

facts in this incident. Maybe sour grapes or maybe a frantic attempt to clear a guilty conscience. Whatever the case, the one fact remains



that the violence directed against us that night was also meant for you, Mr. Flynn. Wake up before it's too late.

Ira Manhoff
Manhattan

XEROXED

Chill Factor

Mayor David Dinkins
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

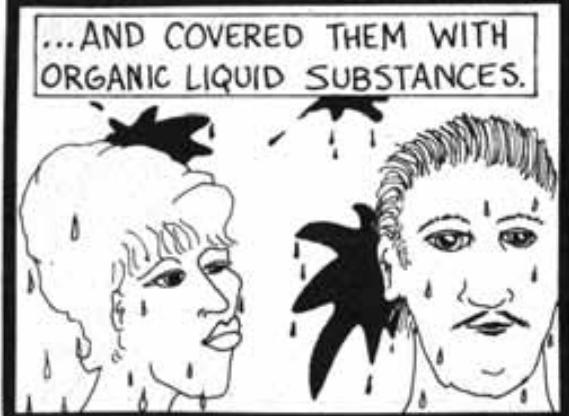
Dear Mayor Dinkins:

It was with sense of relief approaching on euphoria that most of us in the communities affected by AIDS contemplated your election as mayor, and an end to the hostility loosed upon our communities by ex-Mayor Koch and his Commissioner of Health, Stephen C. Joseph.

Therefore, it is with a sense of shock approaching upon horror that we now react to the proposed hiring of Dr. Woodrow Myers, Jr., MD, as Dr. Joseph's successor, in light of allegations by those in

Indiana who know of Dr. Myers' unsavory record.

Dr. Myers' appears, according to those who have worked with him in Indiana, to oppose your own worthy legacy of support for the confidentiality and civil rights of HIV-infected persons, and to oppose, as well, measures ensuring that HIV-infected persons are represented on all decision-making bodies concerned with AIDS. The accounts of those who have worked with Dr. Myers in Indiana are chilling. No matter how adept Dr. Myers may be at impressing people on a national level, it is those who have seen his work close up whose



views must weigh heaviest—and they weigh very negatively indeed. Specific allegations include:

Dr. Myers instituted mandatory name reporting of HIV-infected persons to the State of Indiana. As we pointed out relentlessly to Dr. Joseph (and successfully to Mr. Koch), such measures drive people away from needed health care services.

Dr. Myers favored legalizing a quarantine, in certain circumstances, for HIV-infected individuals.

Dr. Myers opposed PWA representation on the Indiana State AIDS Policy Group, despite its having requested such representation.



Blocked conversion of public long-term care facilities into AIDS hospices.

Attempted to selectively enforce anti-sex laws

against gay and lesbian establishments.

Attempted to close gay bars.

We are confident that,

as you take the time to consider these complex issues, you will come to feel, as we do, that filling so sensitive a position as that of New York City Commissioner of Health in this time of crisis must await the completion of a thorough investigation of these charges made concerning Dr. Myers by the Gay, Lesbian and AIDS communities of Indiana. Considering the sensitive and complex nature of the allegations, the investigation must be conducted by members of New York's own Gay, Lesbian and AIDS communities.

Why are there such grave disagreements between public health professionals and the communities affected by AIDS? The answer is fairly simple—the public health model of paternalistic control advocated by persons such as Drs. Joseph and Myers relies on coercion to force people into the health care system; in fact, of course, it drives people away.

The public health control model has failed for sexually transmitted diseases (witness skyrocketing syphilis and gonorrhea rates), it has failed for tuberculosis and it can never work for such a complex disease of long latency like AIDS. Thus, we hope the Koch-Joseph legacy of attempted (and failed) paternalistic control will be replaced, in the Dinkins administration, by measures that institutionalize a vigorous collaboration between health care consumers and the city government.

We look forward to this outcome because everything in your own record, Mayor Dinkins, attests to the common goals we share:

Empowerment of the community of people with HIV and AIDS within decision making bodies.

Protection of their civil rights, and rights to confiden-

Nightmare of the Week

Kudos go to dodo *New York Post* editorial page editor, Eric Breindel. This Buckley-come-lately uses precious *Post* pages to play out his laughably complex justifications for grade-level one homophobia. Last week he even argued that ACT UP's disgust at holy hypocrite John Cardinal O'Connor's call for more AIDS beds was proof of the group's "real agenda." According to Breindel, all ACT UP wants is to "secure acceptance for homosexuality as a morally valid alternative lifestyle." Well...yes, asshole. If queers gained "acceptance for homosexuality as a morally valid alternative lifestyle," we wouldn't have to fight for drugs, money, care and beds, and be forced to eat crumbs out of one fat, sweaty ecumenical hand while the other one stabs us in the back.

But actually, we, the Queer Nation, should be thanking you, Eric. Your writing an entire editorial about radical fags and dykes only shows that you are scared shitless—and that we dreaded homosexuals are gaining ground fast.

Yes, Eric. Be afraid. We are everywhere. We make your clothes, we do your hair, we cater your parties, we fix your cars, we run your day care centers. And we even publish magazines, in whose precious pages we can gleefully gore you.

tiality and anonymity.

Full equality of gays and lesbians, as well as people with HIV-infection and AIDS.

These goals you and the AIDS communities of New York City have in common; Dr. Myers' record does not appear to indicate that he shares our common aims.

Hitherto, in your transition efforts, you have displayed an uncommon ability to reach out and include people from the diverse communities that make up New York City. Let us continue this process of inclusion, and avoid hasty decisions whose consequences in our community could be so negative, painful and divisive. Let us work together to provide new hope and services for New Yorkers with AIDS or HIV and those at risk.

Mark Harrington
Member, ACT UP/NY
Manhattan

Saints or Sinners?

Saint at Large
New York, NY 10003
To Whom It May Concern,

I went to the "Saint at Large" party New Year's Eve and was extremely distressed by two specific things.

First, for quite some time the gay community has been boycotting the music of Donna Summer because of her revolting remarks concerning AIDS being God's retribution against gay people. And yet you continue to play her music. Why?

OutWeek magazine, in which you advertise, has run numerous pieces on the controversy. It is insulting and demeaning for you to continue to play her music, especially for a crowd that is almost 100 percent gay. Having been her earliest supporters, many of us in the gay community are furious that she has turned on us in our time of need. Despite her attempts at denying that she even made the offensive remarks, there were many wit-

nesses who came forward to back up the claims against her. Any attempt at retraction on her part is too little too late. The damage has been done.

So please, STOP PLAYING HER MUSIC and show some support for the community that was also responsible for making the original Saint a success. In case you haven't noticed, many of the old faces are gone. They've died from AIDS.



I also urge men to stop dancing when her music comes on and boo the DJ instead.

My more serious concern is the unsafe sex going on in the balcony. It was one thing in the 70s before any of us knew what was going on with AIDS. However, in 1990, to allow guys to fuck and suck anonymously and unprotected (no condoms) is the equivalent to being an accomplice to murder as far as I'm concerned.

Either monitor the balcony with your own staff for unsafe sexual practices, or close it, or face the repercuSSION. Unless this is done by your next dance party in January I am contacting the New York City Department of

Health to get you closed down, as well as bringing it to the attention of ACT UP and other gay organizations who have mounted successful protests and boycotts, as you well know.

To see all of these beautiful men killing each other up there is depressing and outrageous beyond belief. We talk so much in the community about educating the public about AIDS and safe

sex and yet we are not even together enough, in 1990, ten years into the AIDS crisis, to take responsibility for our own actions and play safe. This is true among white, middle class men who have had the most access to information, services and education from the beginning and who are the largest part of your crowd and who are participating in unsafe sex in the balcony. PLEASE, STOP THIS IMMEDIATELY AND SAVE SOME LIVES.

We'll be watching.
Jack Hapscam
Manhattan

Message Received
Mr. Jack Hapscam
c/o OutWeek
Dear Mr. Hapscam:

I regret that you did not give me the opportunity to answer your letter of January 4 directly, but since there was no return address nor is there a phone listing for you, I am directing my response to OutWeek.

On New Year's Eve the night manager called in sick, as did several other scheduled employees. This shortage of personnel, lack of experienced supervision and a larger than anticipated crowd severely limited our ability to patrol the balcony. If there was a problem in the balcony, I can assure you that it will not reoccur.

We will have increased lighting and personnel in the balcony at all times during events, and if these measures are not sufficient, the area will be closed completely.

It is unfortunate, however, that ten years into the epidemic there are still some members of the gay community who need to be monitored in a public facility.

With regard to Donna Summer, we don't burn books nor do we break records. If DJ's choose to play her songs, and if gay men who are informed choose to dance to that music, that is their choice. If you find it objectionable, you should leave the dance floor and perhaps address your comments to the DJs directly. We do not tell them what to play.

Jack Stoddard, Director
Saint-At-Large
Manhattan

Corrections

Because of an editing error, two photographs in issue 29 appeared without credit. The photo on page six is by Lee Snider/Photo Images. The photo on page nine is by Steve Crouch.

News

Furor Erupts Over Choice For Top NYC Health Post

by Gabriel Rotello

NEW YORK—Mayor David Dinkins' top choice for New York City's health commissioner ran into a storm of criticism and recriminations last week after *OutWeek* disclosed information about the AIDS policy he has established at his current post.

But Indiana State Health Commissioner Woodrow A. Myers is still reportedly close to being hired by Dinkins.

A routine check into Myers' background by *OutWeek* uncovered large scale opposition to his positions on crucial gay, AIDS and civil liberties issues in Indiana. Some local AIDS activists now say Myers is unacceptable to New York's large and vocal gay community.

The issue is particularly sensitive for Dinkins, who won last November's election with the overwhelming support of lesbians and gays who had

abandoned their support for Mayor Ed Koch. Dr. Stephen Joseph, Koch's health commissioner, was under persistent fire from the gay community.

The allegations against Dr. Myers include his strong support for the passage of a 1988 Indiana law requiring mandatory name reporting of HIV-positive people. That law, Senate Bill 9, includes a controversial clause known as the Recalcitrant Carrier Provision, which provides for the indefinite incarceration of HIV carriers who practice what Indiana officials deem unsafe sex.

Of the estimated 700 people with AIDS (PWAs) in Indiana, two have been detained under the provision, and one remains in detention. The Indiana definition of what constitutes unsafe sex is informal and varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, but health officials in at least one county confirm that unprotected oral sex is included in

their definition of a health code violation.

AIDS workers and gay rights leaders in Indianapolis and across the state also detailed a litany of complaints about Myers' record on numerous other issues. They painted a broad picture of a health commissioner indifferent to civil liberties for gays, inactive in securing AIDS funding, hostile to gay-targeted safer sex education and opposed to PWAs serving on AIDS policy-making boards.

Dr. Myers is reported to have vocally advocated the closing of gay bars and bookstores, as well as bath houses, reasoning that bars and bookstores are meeting places where gays make the social connections that ultimately lead to sex. He is also criticized for opposing the conversion of nursing homes into AIDS hospices.

And gay business owners claim

Myers: Crème de la Krim

NEW YORK — As *OutWeek* went to press Friday night, Dr. Mathilde Krim endorsed the selection of Dr. Woodrow Myers for health commissioner, and said she would recommend that Mayor David Dinkins proceed with his nomination.

A group of AIDS leaders, convened by Debra Fraser-Howze, executive director of the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, also issued a statement endorsing Myers, making his appointment a near certainty.

In an interview with *OutWeek*, Krim, who was clearly ill at ease, confirmed that many of the allegations about Myers made by *OutWeek* seemed accurate. She defended him, however, saying that many of his unpopular policies were inevitable in a state as conservative as Indiana, and expressed the hope that he would modify his views under Dinkins.

"He's a typical straight guy," Krim said, "and he's got to be sensitized to gay concerns. He's not sensitive enough."

But Krim maintained that "it takes a strong guy to make it in New York. He has ambition. He likes publicity. These are not bad qualities," she said.

Krim admitted that she was unhappy with the way the mayor's transition team, of which she is a member, had originally researched Myers.

"He should have been investigated," Krim said. "The mayor should have done it but it wasn't done. I insisted to the mayor's people, but they said nothing."

Asked why she was then proceeding with a recommendation in the absence of basic information, Krim responded, "I don't want this issue to fester and become a dividing point between the Black and gay communities."

The group convened by the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, which included Tom Stoddard, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and Tim Sweeney, deputy executive director of the Gay Men's Health Crisis, in addition to Dr. Krim, issued a unanimous statement after a meeting Friday afternoon.

It called Myers "eminently qualified," and read, in part, "This group reviewed the issues and held a full and frank additional conference with Dr. Myers regarding them.

"On the basis of these discussions it is the unanimous conviction of the group that Dr. Myers' positions are fully consistent with and supportive of the humane and responsive philosophy on AIDS held by Mayor Dinkins."

The statement made no mention of the numerous charges against Dr. Myers.

"Calling Woody Myers and asking him for his response to these charges is not an independent review," countered Mark Harrington of ACT UP's Treatment and Data Committee. He called the situation "explosive," and the statement "a sellout by those leaders the gay community had entrusted its faith and hope in."

But Ronald Johnson, the executive director of the Minority AIDS Task Force, told *OutWeek* that he supported the decision.

"I feel confident that [Myers] is one of the best persons that could be found, based on the homework I've done and the people I've spoken to," he said. "Blacks feel that it's in their interests to have a commissioner who is a person of color." — G.R. and A.M.

that under Myers the health department targeted gay sex establishments for harassment, while leaving straight sex establishments alone. Finally, Myers is blasted by top Indiana AIDS workers who allege that he has allowed the virtual impoundment of CDC-allocated funds for Indiana AIDS programs by the State Budget Office.

Myers' record on AIDS is not, however, entirely one-sided. He is credited with encouraging doctors in Indiana to treat AIDS patients and he was instrumental in arranging schooling for Ryan White, a teenaged hemophiliac whose case received national attention when a local school board refused to enroll him. He is also credited for calling attention to inadequacies in the President's Commission on HIV under Ronald Reagan by resigning from it.

A graduate of both Harvard Medical School and Stanford's School of Business, Myers, 35, is considered by many to be a rising star in the national health establishment. He has been the state health commissioner in Indiana for almost five years, surviving both a Republican and a Democratic state administration. Even his most vocal critics call him articulate, per-

spective and politically deft.

Myers originally seemed willing to speak with *OutWeek*, and made several attempts to return calls. But after the story of the developing opposition to his appointment broke in New York's mainstream media, Myers became inaccessible. *Daily News* AIDS beat reporter Heidi Evans wrote that health department spokesperson David McCarty "said that Dinkins' office asked Myers not to comment publicly until it had a chance to look into the matter further."

OutWeek has, wherever possible, countered charges made against Myers with statements made by members of his own staff.

Myers was recommended to the Dinkins transition team by Dr. Mathilde Krim, founding co-chair of AmFAR. Dr. Krim, who is widely respected in New York's AIDS community, has worked with Dr. Myers, who is on the board of directors of AmFAR.

Sources in the Dinkins administration said that the appointment was on hold while Myers' record was scrutinized. At a press conference last Wednesday, Mayor Dinkins indicated that Dr. Myers was only one of several candidates for health commissioner, and assured reporters that questions about Myers' AIDS and civil liberties



IS THE DOCTOR IN?
Dr. Woodrow Myers

record would be answered before the appointment was made.

In an extraordinary move, Dinkins told a reporter that he would not appoint Myers over Dr. Krim's objections.

But by week's end, gay and AIDS advocates began expressing concern that controversy over the appointment was dividing the AIDS community along racial lines. Many of those most vocal in their opposition of Dr. Myers, who is Black, are white gay men.

Myers is highly regarded in com-

The Race Case

The controversy over Dr. Woodrow Myers' record on AIDS issues in Indiana has brought to the surface simmering tensions between New York's Black and gay communities, and long standing charges by people of color that white AIDS activists routinely ignore their issues and bypass their organizations in making AIDS policy.

Ronald Johnson, executive director of the Minority Task Force on AIDS, said that it was the process by which the Myers allegations were made that Blacks found particularly irritating.

"The way this was handled was divisive," Johnson said. "Playing it out in the press was bound to bother people. One hopes we can have a responsible dialogue outside the press."

On Wednesday, the Gay Men's Health Crisis organized a meeting between leaders of various AIDS groups to discuss the allegations about Myers. The press, including this reporter, was barred from the meeting by GMHC leaders so that problems arising from the Myers case could be discussed in private. But Johnson expressed concern that the meeting came "too late" to head off racial tensions over the stalled appointment. "People were already angry by then. They said buzz words that raised feathers," Johnson asserted.

Keith Cylar of the Majority Action Committee, a group

within ACT UP that focuses on AIDS issues for people of color, was concerned that ACT UP as a whole had not considered the feelings of its minority members in their rush to condemn Myers' positions.

"It would have been wise for ACT UP people to come to our committee first. There's a feeling that the white part of ACT UP speaks for everybody. They don't," he asserted.

Other Black and Latino AIDS workers emphasized that if the allegations about Myers are true, he would be an inappropriate choice for health commissioner, and Cylar termed Dinkins' selection process "scary" for not having disclosed problems with the Myers choice. Johnson said, "Blacks in the gay community are very concerned about these charges."

But Johnson said that now that appointment had progressed so far, it would be difficult to retract it without offending minorities. "It's incredibly important to have a person of color who can speak out on AIDS as health commissioner," Johnson said. "If we are going to shoot down a person of color candidate, then we'd damn well better have all the facts in a way that all people can accept." He termed such a fact-checking mission "difficult" in the present climate. —G.R.

munities of color, especially for his work on lowering the rate of infant mortality. Many people of color had expressed hope that their concerns would be sensitively addressed by a Black health commissioner [see sidebar].

On Friday night, most people close to the situation felt that, with Krim, Sweeney and others no longer objecting, Myers' appointment would probably go through [see box].

Broad Opposition in Indiana

Much of the Indiana opposition to Myers stems from his efforts to pass and then enforce Senate Bill 9, a 1988 law which requires mandatory name reporting of anyone testing positive for HIV. The law also includes mechanisms for contact tracing and the quarantine of those people deemed a menace to public health. Myers is widely considered instrumental in the

passage of the legislation, which is among the most stringent in the nation.

But complaints from AIDS and civil liberties advocates in Indiana go beyond the law itself. Kent Robinson, the head of Justice Incorporated, Indiana's state-wide gay civil rights organization, asserts that the board of health has ignored issues of privacy when engaged in contact tracing.

"Sometimes the tracing is done in a public place," Robinson said. "Health workers will approach someone at their workplace or in a bar to say they're being contact traced. And public health officials have misrepresented themselves to gather information."

Marla Stevens, chairwoman of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union characterized state health workers' contact tracing as "draconian harassment of PWAs," and said health workers are

encouraged to "approach HIV positive people in a heavily accusatory style to scare them into compliance" with the quarantine law. According to Stevens, a single anonymous tip to health authorities can initiate such harassment. Subjects of such a "denunciation" can seek information on who reported them only by bringing a "malicious reporting suit" to court. So far, no such suits have been successful, according to Stevens.

Carmen Quintana, a lawyer who works for the Board of Health and is in charge of the enforcement of the quarantine provisions, defended Myers' record on privacy and enforcement.

"It's not our intention to approach people in a heavy handed way," Quintana said. But she conceded that there have been complaints about technique and added, "There's always room for improvement in the

Naming Names

Questions have arisen as to why such a controversial appointment for such a sensitive position was ever considered, especially when the staff, transition team and panel of advisors to David Dinkins includes so many gay men and lesbians.

Several people who are well-respected in the gay and AIDS communities had a direct influence on the decision to consider Myers, including Dr. Mathilde Krim, a tireless AIDS advocate and co-founder of the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR); her policy director and chief advisor, David Corkery; and Tim Sweeney, the legal director and former acting executive director at the Gay Men's Health Crisis.

The two openly gay members of Dinkins' hand-picked 23-member transition committee, Marie Wilson, executive director of the Ms. Foundation, and Tom Stoddard, executive director of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, said they were not directly involved with the search committee which picked Myers. Stoddard, in fact, was on vacation in Paris while the Myers debate unfolded.

But they were instrumental in assuring Sweeney a seat on that committee, and Stoddard told *OutWeek* that he and Wilson had felt confident that Sweeney and Krim, who also sits on committee, would make an appropriate choice.

And one source high up in the Dinkins transmission team charged that the health commissioner search committee "did not do the appropriately thorough background check on Myers before recommending him."

Members of the gay and AIDS communities' most vocal element, ACT UP, unrelentingly hounded New York's outgoing health commissioner, Stephen Joseph, picketing his home, following him to Brooklyn and Queens to jeer during

his speaking engagements, and even wedging themselves inside a revolving door with him.

Yet although their successful opposition to Mayor Ed Koch was based primarily on the AIDS policies of his health commissioner, the group was strangely silent on just who it felt could do a better job.

Only after the all-volunteer group felt that the issue had reached crisis proportions, with Myers' appointment pending and facts about his record trickling in, did the group form a committee to research the issue.

"We fucked up," says long-time ACT UPer, playwright Larry Kramer. "We shouldn't apologize for what we haven't done, because we do so much, but I do think we missed an opportunity," Kramer told *OutWeek*, adding, "We didn't have a sense of our own power."

GMHC head Jeffrey Braff sent a letter to Dinkins late last week asking him "to delay the selection process to make absolutely certain that your new city health commissioner's philosophy and record do not contradict your administration's HIV/AIDS policies."

But beyond lack of leadership, the New York City Charter itself may have forced the exclusion of many other qualified, community-based candidates.

According to the charter, which can be altered only by a city-wide referendum, candidates for health commissioner must be medical doctors with either a graduate degree in business or public health. The commissioner must also have had eight years of experience running a similar city or state department.

According to sources, such stringent requirements seriously restricted the potential pool of available candidates.

—Andrew Miller

way we do this."

Quintana maintains that only one person has been detained under the quarantine provisions. However, other sources have told *OutWeek* that at least one other person has been, and remains, jailed under the quarantine law.

Indiana law provides for the state to order "carriers" to receive mandatory counseling, but a major complaint among AIDS workers is the complete absence of state-funded AIDS counseling under Myers. Michael Shuff, the executive director of the Damien Center, Indiana's equivalent to the Gay Men's Health Crisis, recounts how a PWA recently appeared with a written document from the state ordering him to receive counseling at the Damien facility.

But no one from the State Board of Health had ever requested that the Damien Center provide such a service, nor had the Board of Health offered the Damien Center funds to reimburse it for offering such counseling, according to Shuff.

"Dr. Myers is not interested in good counseling but rather in behavioral control," Shuff told *OutWeek*. He added that similar things had occurred elsewhere in the state, notably in Gary, where a private center refused a client who had been "ordered" to receive counseling there. "The man had no insurance, the place refused him, so where does that leave the person?" Shuff wondered.

Myers' spokesperson David McCarty admits to a "mix-up" on the part of the Board of Health in the Damien Center case, adding that the error was being corrected.

Anonymous vs. Confidential

Indiana currently permits the existence of 14 anonymous HIV testing centers, which are exempt from the provisions of Senate Bill 9. Myers' defenders point to these centers as an indication that the commissioner is not completely out of step with the testing policy preferred by AIDS advocates.

However, last December, a directive went out from the Board of Health requesting that those centers begin offering "confidential" testing, in addition to "anonymous" testing. Confidential testing gives the state

complete access to the test subject's name, and the person would fall under the provisions of the contact tracing and quarantine provisions of the law. It is widely assumed that state health workers will begin advising otherwise poorly informed clients to opt for confidential testing.

"We're very concerned that this may be an indication that Myers plans to eliminate anonymous testing altogether in Indiana," Justice Inc.'s Robinson said.

Several experts, noting that the order came while Myers is being considered for the top New York City health post, remarked that such a directive contradicted the belief of some supporters that Myers would modify his strong pro-testing, pro-tracing position in New York.

Spokesperson McCarty maintains that the new directive is mandated by CDC regulations.

Gay Business Concerned

Numerous sources told *OutWeek* that upon taking office Myers spoke out strongly in favor of closing not only Indiana's gay bathhouses, but its gay bookstores and bars as well. And in 1985, the state board of health began inspecting bars and bookstores for health code violations.

Stanley Berg, publisher of the *New Works News*, an Indianapolis-based gay newspaper, recalls that "the first thing he tried to do was close all the gay businesses in the state. Not just places where people had sex but places like bookstores and bars where they didn't have sex." The apparent rationale was that gays frequent such places to make social contacts that eventually end in sexual activity.

Berg credits Myers' "very vocal attempt" to shut all gay bars and bookstores with the passage of a "glass door rule" governing gay baths. That rule, a local ordinance in Marion County, which includes Indianapolis, requires sex establishments to replace cubicle doors with glass, so that sexual activity can be monitored.

Sources throughout the state report that gay sex establishments are routinely singled out by health authorities for harassment, while the

See MYERS on page 54

USING IT WON'T KILL YOU. NOT USING IT MIGHT.



Maybe you don't like using condoms. But if you're going to have sex, a latex condom with a spermicide is your best protection against the AIDS virus.

Use them every time, from start to finish, according to the manufacturers' directions. Because no one has ever been cured of AIDS. More than 40,000 Americans have already died from it.

And even if you don't like condoms, using them is definitely better than that.

HELP STOP AIDS. USE A CONDOM.

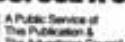


Photo: Jerry Friedman

News

March on Georgia Capitol Protests Sodomy Laws

Lawmakers Introduce Amendments and Repeal Measures

by Cliff O'Neill

ATLANTA—Over 300 gay and lesbian activists converged on the Georgia State House on the opening day of the 1990 legislative session Jan. 8 to call for the repeal of that state's sodomy law. Sixty-three demonstra-

taneous oral sex, the dolls represented one of several sex acts made illegal by the Georgia sex statute.

Sodomy laws, as they are called, "prohibit" private consensual sex acts between adults in 25 states and the District of Columbia. In seven of the

Kinney (D-Atlanta) introduced a bill to repeal the law only as it applies to heterosexuals. Ironically, his daughter, Rep. Cynthia McKinney (D-Atlanta) introduced another bill the same day which would repeal the law entirely.

The Georgia statute was upheld in 1986 in the landmark *Hardwick v. Bowers* decision by the Supreme Court, which cited a "millennia of moral teaching" as grounds for its ruling.

"Whose morality are they talking about?" asked Sue Hyde, director of the Privacy Project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force at the day's function. Quoting from Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun's blistering dissent in the decision, Hyde said, "The freedom to differ is not limited to things that do not matter much, that would be a mere shadow of freedom. The real test of its substance is the freedom to differ as to things that touch the hearts of the existing order."

Local residents' reactions throughout the day ran from supportive—as evidenced by a handful of construction workers cheering atop a nearby building—to confused—as seen on the faces of most passers by.

Yet, what was most in evidence throughout the Monday demonstration, however, was the scarcity of Atlantans attending the lunchtime rally.

Except for the members of Atlanta's ACT UP, proportionately few locals attended the event. Over 120 members travelled to Atlanta from the New York chapter of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP/NY) and other contingents came from Los Angeles, Chicago, Boston and Washington, D.C.

Prior to the gathering, a schism had formed within the Atlanta gay and lesbian community, with many



"THE LAW IS THE PERVERSION"

Act Up at Georgia Capital

tors were arrested as part of a civil disobedience action, nearly 30 of whom were from New York City.

For over two hours, the protesters, over half of whom were from out of state, chanted and heard speeches from a wide array of gay/lesbian, abortion, prostitutes' and disability rights leaders.

"Gay, straight, Black, white. Sodomy's a basic right," the crowd chanted as it made its way down Peachtree Street in downtown Atlanta, pushing a bed on wheels on which lay two naked, life-size, inflatable rubber dolls. Arranged to simulate simul-

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

states, the laws are limited to same-sex partners. Although the laws are not routinely enforced, activists state, they are regularly used by law enforcement and politicians to harass and intimidate lesbians and gay men, and are considered by gay legal advocates to be the basis for much of the institutionalized homophobia in this country.

The Georgia law penalizes both homosexual and unmarried heterosexual adults for up to 20 years in jail for any of a variety of sex acts.

As the demonstration took place outside, Georgia State Rep. Billy Mc-

locals fearing the demonstration by "outsiders" would only serve to alienate otherwise friendly lawmakers. The controversy was alluded to several times throughout the demonstration.

"There are lesbians and gay men who disagree with this action," stated Sabrina Sojourner, outgoing chair of Atlanta's African-American Lesbian and Gay Alliance. "They believe that the publicity will cause those who would otherwise be our friends and supporters to abandon us. Well, let me tell them something as a Black person, still fighting racial injustice: With friends like that you don't have to worry about enemies 'cause they're right in your own front yard. Human rights—doing what is right and just—should not be based on which way the wind blows."

Still, the demonstrators did routinely break into chants unprintable in mainstream newspapers, much to the dismay of many of those entering the State House building. Also one New York activist prominently displayed a sign reading, "Man Boy Love Now," featuring a close-up photo of an act of anal intercourse.

"Hello all you sodomites and all you straight people who like a more interesting sex life," bellowed brash lesbian comic/activist Lee Delaria, opening the day's rally. "If the people in that state building are so interested in what I do with my genitals," she added, "I'd like to tell them that I'm not wearing any underwear."

A block away, a group of about 12 anti-gay counter-demonstrators carrying signs reading, "Gay is Sad," were also made the object of ridicule at the demonstration. "Racist, sexist, anti-gay," the crowd chanted, "your souls will burn in hell one day."

Also attending the rally was Georgia State Rep. Jim Martin, who commented on his discomfort at the rally, but voiced his support regardless. "I don't know who feels more out of place here [you or me]," he stated. "But isn't that the point? My sexual orientation and my feelings about morality are my own. And what happens in our own bedrooms among consenting adults, based on our own sense of our own selves, is

See SODOMY on page 30

Constitutional Amendment

ATLANTA — *The Atlanta Constitution*, the city's major daily paper, called for the repeal of Georgia's sodomy law on Jan. 10, characterizing it as "an affront to the gay and lesbian communities because it effectively criminalizes their sex lives" and "a Victorian invasion into our private lives."

The editorial continued, "It's unfortunate that on Monday activists from ACT UP staged a carnivalesque protest calculated to touch every homophobic nerve under the Gold Dome [of the State Legislature]. . . ."

Citing an earlier *Atlanta Constitution* poll which found 51 percent of state legislators in favor of amending the state's sodomy law, the paper wrote, "This is a case where heterosexual male legislators from South Georgia and Atlanta's gay community ought to be able to make common cause. Let's hope ACT UP hasn't messed up." ▼

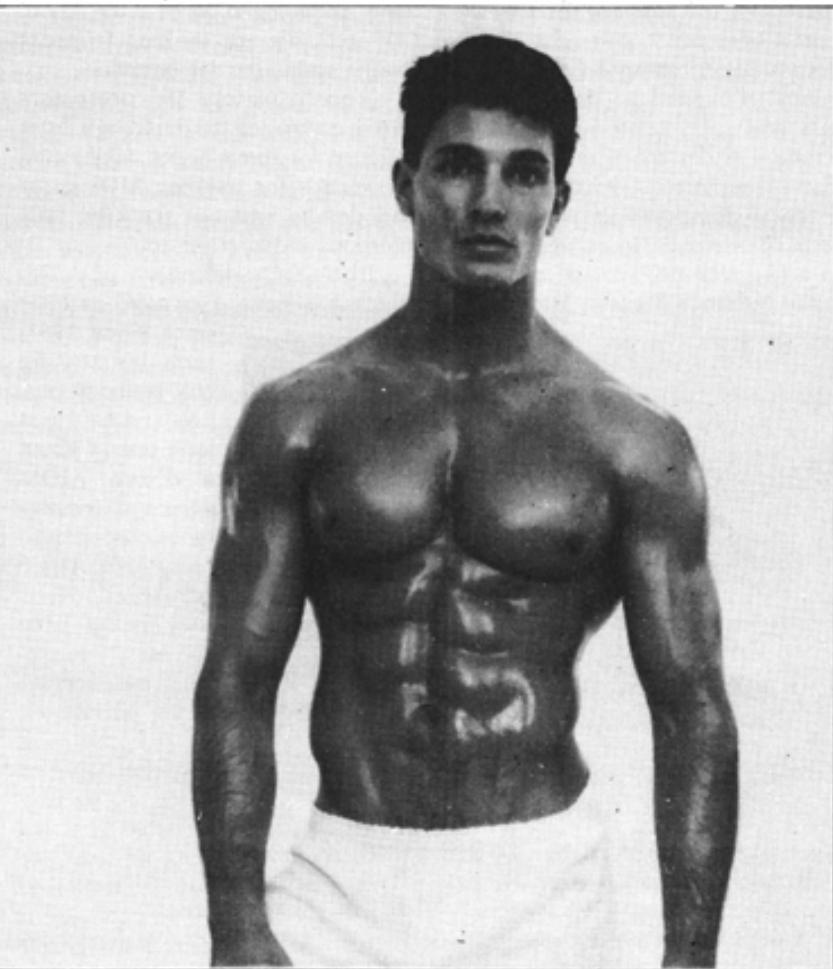


Photo: John Stern

A Serious Gym for Men.

**CHELSEA
GYM**

267 West 17th Street (cor 8th Ave) New York 212 255.1150

News

Arrests in AIDS Protest at Centers for Disease Control

Demo Demands Wider Definition of AIDS

by Cliff O'Neill

ATLANTA—Forty-nine AIDS activists were arrested at the headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control here Jan 9, part of a sizable demonstration calling on the federal agency to expand its definitions of AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex to include a wider spectrum of people affected by HIV-related illness.

Some demonstrators pounded on the building's glass doors while others ran a flag with AIDS-related messages up the building's flagpole. Most of the

arrested were charged with criminal trespass or interfering with government property and were released on \$240 bond. According to police at the action, CDC officials are seeking to press charges against the demonstrators.

Approximately 300 protesters seized control of the building's front entrance for three hours, lambasting the agency for tracking AIDS cases and deaths and not tracking HIV infections and infection routes.

The CDC's definition of AIDS, which has been expanded at least once since 1981, includes testing HIV antibody positive and having at least one of about a dozen AIDS-associated opportunistic infections.

Aerosolized pentamidine is now being used successfully to prevent pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, or PCP, the most common cause of death among people with AIDS. But due, in part, to such improvements in prophylactic care, many people with HIV-infection successfully avoid coming down with PCP and other opportunistic infections, but who are nonetheless seriously ill.

And according to Judy Siff, a spokeswoman for

ACT UP/Atlanta, most of the opportunistic infections on the CDC's list are primarily manifested by white gay men. "But different groups, like IV-drug users, come up with different infections that are just not on the list," she said, also noting that women with HIV often get sick very differently than men.

Siff also noted the disparity between the CDC's figure of just over 100,000 AIDS cases nationwide, and AIDS advocate's estimate of two million people who are HIV positive.

The CDC's narrow definitions of AIDS and ARC often make it difficult for people with HIV-related illness to gain access to publicly funded medical services earmarked for people with AIDS, according to ACT UP.

In addition, activists claim that because the scope of HIV-related disease goes well beyond the instances defined by the CDC, federal underfunding for AIDS services results. And because some HIV-related deaths occur before a person has officially contracted AIDS, ACT UP claims that the government is undercounting the number of people diagnosed with AIDS in the United States.

Despite repeated requests from reporters, the CDC would not comment on the demonstration.

CDC Gets New Moniker

Holding signs calling on the agency to widen investigations of AIDS in children, women in general and lesbians in particular, the demonstrators rechristened the CDC "Careless Demographic Counting."

After a two hour standoff with over 30 Dekalb County police officers—nearly all of whom wore rubber gloves—waves of demonstrators began challenging the law enforcement agents with a series of actions designed to call



DOWN FOR THE COUNT
Women protest at the CDC

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

attention to their specific demands.

At one point, a group of six women—several of whom identified themselves as HIV positive—took to the building's front entrance to place blood-red palm prints and a large sign reading "CDC Leaves Out Women" on the walls and to speak about their lack of access to drug trials based on the CDC's narrow definition of AIDS.

"Since I don't have their definition of AIDS," said one woman, "I can't get treatment." By their side, three male protesters chided the CDC by covering their ears, eyes and mouths, mocking the agency's alleged reluctance to count many HIV infected women who have a variety of opportunistic infections which do not fall into their definition of AIDS or ARC.

Lesbians and T-Cells

"The CDC doesn't even want to consider the possibility of woman to woman transmission of HIV," stated Emily Nahmanson of ACT UP/NY. "CDC tell us why you sit back while women die," the protesters shouted, while a small group ran a large black banner up the flagpole in front of the building which read: "Cunnilingus

counts. AIDS won't wait."

Among the demonstrators' demands was that the CDC begin classifying AIDS patients by transmission routes rather than "risk groups," which they insist would provide a clearer picture of how the disease is spread and how to educate against it.

Tossing handfuls of round cardboard cards and plastic ping-pong balls marked as "T-cells," still other demonstrators sought to draw attention to their demand that the CDC also alter the AIDS definition to include all persons with less than 200 T-cells.

T-cells, key indicators of a body's immune system function, range in healthy individuals from 800-1200. Although the CDC has guidelines calling on all persons with under 200 T-cells to immediately begin taking medications intended to stave off AIDS-related infections, they do not classify those with under 200 T-cells who have not yet had those infections as having AIDS. That, the activists state, closes out hundreds of thousands of HIV-infected people from the CDC's definition and, consequently, from most treatment protocols and publicly-funded

See CDC on page 30

The Albion House Inn

10 Room Inn
Piano Bar
& Restaurant

135 Gough Street
San Francisco, California 94102
415-621-0896

Guess who's going to court

NEW YORK—Because of a recent ruling by Judge Shirley Wohl Kram of the U.S. District Court in New York, the federal government will be forced to go to trial to justify the restrictions placed by the Centers for Disease Control on AIDS-education materials that CDC monies help fund.

The lawsuit that resulted in this ruling was brought by a number of community groups, including the Gay Men's Health Crisis, that provide AIDS prevention education, and by New York State's health department.

Kram's 49-page opinion raises substantial questions concerning the constitutionality of the federal agency's restrictions, which were instituted in 1987 following Congress' adoption of the infamous Helms Amendment, which prohibited the federal government from providing funds for organizations or projects that "promote or encourage homosexuality."

The Helms Amendment was valid only for fiscal year 1988, and is no longer in effect. But according to Nan Hunter of the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, which represented the community groups involved in the case, the CDC continues to promulgate restrictions on the sexual content of AIDS education materials "because it's afraid of the political fallout" that might follow its funding of controversial materials.

Hunter stressed the importance of the ruling especially for state and local agencies and community groups outside New York and those few other places where gay people possess relatively little political power and economic clout, and which therefore depend heavily on federal funding of AIDS-education programs.

—James Waller

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News

Chicago Lesbians Plot Visibility Course

by Rex Wockner

CHICAGO—About 100 lesbians met at the Paris Dance club here Jan. 9 to discuss lesbian invisibility in gay/lesbian organizations, strategies for creating a "lesbian agenda" and the possibility of a new lesbian organization in the city.

The two-and-one-half-hour meeting was a free flowing exchange of ideas and opinions between about 20 of the women and moderator Marie Kuda, a long-time local activist.

Kuda said "there is a perception that the active people [in gay/lesbian groups] are male and maybe that's true. So what do we do," she asked, "to make ourselves visible?"

Former New Yorker Joanne Trapani, co-chair of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force, pointed out that lesbian invisibility "is just an extension of [societal] sexism," a statement that drew nods of agreement around the room.

Activist Carole Powell, a board member of IMPACT, a political action committee, urged lesbians "to claim our power as females. To say that *Gay*

Chicago, or *Windy City Times* or *Outlines* [local gay newspapers] is not making lesbians visible is to simplify it," she said.

Long-time activist Renee Hanover responded that her 20 years of activism have led to a "tremendous disappointment while working in mixed groups.... It's much better to work with women," Hanover said, "because what usually happens [in mixed groups] is the women do all the shit work and the [men] get the credit and the visibility."

Long-time activist Amy Maggio, development director at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (and also a former New Yorker), countered that AFC has seven lesbians in managerial positions, including executive director Marcia Lipetz.

"This is a good example of lesbian visibility," Maggio said. "We can't say there are no examples."

Powell then suggested that if lesbians take part in gay groups "in numbers large enough to represent your viewpoint...you will affect those organizations.... I think the time for

seeing the enemy outside is gone," Powell said, "and we have to look at our own responsibility [for lesbian invisibility]."

Powell identified three crucial issues: "How do we get money? Where do we put it? And which organizations do we concentrate on?" Cathy Halligan, a nominee-pending for Mayor Richard Daley's Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues, agreed that economics is a crucial factor.

"When I was growing up," Halligan said, "all Catholics, no matter how poor, gave ten percent of their gross salary to the church. If Catholics can do it, so can we. Spend your money in the right places. It's economics."

Activist Nancy Pakieser interjected that "it also comes down to being out [of the closet]. The people here tonight are already active," she said. "This is not the right crowd."

Hanover responded that the assembled women, however, "were in a 'react' position. That's [the only time] we get together," she said. "We need an agenda



EXTENSION OF SEXISM—*Joanne Trapani*
Photo: Rex Wockner



FEMALE POWER—*Carole Powell*
Photo: Tracy Baim/Chicago Outlines



FOURTH ESTATE—*Tracy Baim*
Photo: Marcy Baim/Chicago Outlines

so the media has to speak to lesbians [to find out what lesbians are saying]."

Tracy Baim, managing editor of *Outlines*, suggested that lesbians adopt a tactic used by gay organizations several years ago and meet directly with news reporters.

"Reporters call the people they know," Baim said.

"Give us quotable women," added activist Nancy Katz. "I'm tired of seeing openly gay men speak for us."

"We have to make our faces seen where decisions involving us are being made," Kuda concurred.

"So the first priority is getting our name in the media," stressed Halligan. "We must share press lists."

Linda Henderson, managing editor of *Gay Chicago*, pointed out that several women's organizations never send press releases to the gay press and added that large numbers of "out" lesbians are not necessarily the secret to increased press coverage.

"The March On Washington proved that they can ignore numbers," Henderson said. "Send me press releases."

The following day, IGLTF's Trapani characterized the gathering as "really productive," adding, "Women who in gay/lesbian groups might back down from certain positions...freely exchanged their ideas."

The group will meet again Feb. 6 at Razmataz bar, 4174 N. Elston in Chicago. ▼



QUOTABLE WOMEN—*Nancy Katz*
Photo: Lisa Ebright/Chicago Outlines

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PROGNOSIS PREGO

Veronica Prego (r) leaving court with Diane Wilner, one of her lawyers.

Photo: Bill Bytsura

by James Waller

BROOKLYN—The Supreme Court building here was the scene, last week, of opening arguments and testimony in the precedent-setting case of Argentine-born Dr. Veronica Prego, 32, a person with AIDS who is suing New York City's Health and Hospitals Corporation for \$175 million.

Prego claims that she contracted HIV, the virus associated with AIDS, as a result of gross negligence on the part of Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn and of Dr. Joyce Fogel, one of two doctors also named in the suit. Fogel was serving her internship at Kings County in January 1983, when the incident Prego says is responsible for her infection with HIV took place.

At that time, Prego, who had recently moved to the United States from Buenos Aires after becoming engaged to Brooklyn physician Dr. Michael Goldberg, was working as an

"extern" at the hospital. Prego's marriage to Goldberg began to deteriorate in 1985, after she learned she had tested HIV-positive, and has since ended in divorce.

Like many graduates of foreign medical schools, Prego chose to perform a stint as an unpaid extern in order to qualify for internship and, eventually, residency at an American hospital. In her job as an extern, Prego took on many of the duties usually associated with nurses and nurses' aides. She was assigned to assist Fogel, but was not herself allowed to diagnose illnesses or prescribe treatment.

According to testimony Prego gave the court on Wednesday afternoon, it was late at night on January 12, 1983, that she walked into a ward at Kings County to find Fogel in the final stages of drawing blood

NEWS FOCUS

from an AIDS patient referred to in the record as Mr. W.N. After finishing the procedure, Fogel instructed Prego to clean up.

As Prego recounts it, she first removed two visible needles, which she took to be the only ones Fogel had used to draw blood from the patient, taking them immediately to the needle-disposal box located in the nurses' station some distance from the ward. She then returned to the ward and began to gather together the other refuse—discarded wrappings, gauze and dirty linen—for disposal.

As she was doing this, she says, she was pricked by a third contaminated needle that lay hidden within this pile of cloth and paper where Fogel had allegedly carelessly discarded it.

The outcome of the case rests, in large measure, on Prego's lawyers' ability to convince the jury that this was indeed the avenue by which Prego contracted the virus. Doing so is likely to prove a difficult task for a number of reasons.

First, Prego, according to testimony she herself supplied, was the victim of a second needle-stick, this one occurring after she had drawn blood from another AIDS patient while serving her internship at King's County in 1984. And although Prego adamantly denies ever having engaged in any high-risk behavior, she does admit to having had an affair, while still in Argentina, with a man who is apparently unlocatable.

Prego's ex-husband, who had taken the stand on Tuesday, tests negative for HIV antibodies and, during questioning, vociferously denied ever participating in homosexual intercourse or other activities that might have put him at risk for HIV infection.

When she examined Prego on Wednesday, Susan Karten—one of Prego's two attorneys—pursued a line of questioning that seemed designed to elicit a very dismal portrait of working conditions at Kings County Hospital during the early 1980s. Precautionary measures to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases were, as Prego's tale related, inadequate, and even those regulations that were in effect imperfectly heeded.

Prego stated that she received no training in how to deal with patients with infectious diseases before beginning work at Kings County; and that the hospital provided her with no manual or list of house rules concerning safety procedures to be applied when working on infectious-disease wards.

In addition, her testimony detailed the deplorable, dangerous condition in which needle-disposal boxes were kept. Describing the two-holed boxes in which needles were cut and then discarded, Prego said, "Most of the time the scissors [for cutting needles] were so worn they wouldn't cut anything, and the hole [into which cut syringes were then put] was bristling with needles."

Perhaps unfortunately for Prego's case, however, many such "background" questions—and Prego's responses—were struck from the record when presiding Justice Aaron Bernstein sustained objections lodged by Stanley Friedman, chief attorney for the defendants.

Prego's suit was described by several New York newspapers last week as being the first in which an AIDS-infected health care worker has brought such a civil action against a health-care institution. (To date, more than 20 health-care workers in the U.S. are thought to have contracted AIDS in job-related accidents.)

The suit brings together a number of complex issues. But although these issues may justify the amount of media attention the case is receiving here, they are making few appearances in print and television coverage of the trial.

So far, that coverage has had a decidedly maudlin cast. Numerous reports have described Prego, in her

See PREGO on page 30

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Out Takes

Messinger appoints OutWeek columnist

NEW YORK—OutWeek columnist Sandor Katz is leaving the magazine to join the staff of newly-elected Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger.

Katz will be in Messinger's land use unit, with responsibility for historic



Sandy Katz

Photo: Ellen B. Neipris

preservation, parks and waterfront planning. Katz's background in land use policy includes two years as executive director of Westpride, a community group fighting to stop Donald Trump's "Trump City" plan for the Upper West Side.

Katz is also leaving his position as Director of Development for the Community Health Project.

"I am delighted that Sandy has joined my staff," Messinger said in a prepared statement. "His wide experience and expertise will serve the Borough President's office well."

Katz, who is also a member of ACT UP, has worked as an activist with Messinger on issues related to land use, city AIDS services and lesbian and gay civil rights. "No elected official has been as dedicated a friend to our community

as Ruth," said Katz, "I am thrilled to be working on her staff." —Andrew Miller

Zsa-Zsa: read this

The American Civil Liberties Union has filed suit in federal court on behalf of a woman inmate at a Pennsylvania county jail who was denied visitation with her female lover.

In a restricted visitation policy, the Blair County Prison allows inmates to be visited only by family members and heterosexual boyfriends and girlfriends. When the lesbian inmate, referred to in court papers as Jane Doe, wrote to Blair County's warden, Gary Sparks, to request that her lover be permitted to visit, her request was denied.

In her plea to Sparks, "Doe" wrote, "I love her and she loves me and I sure would like to see someone I love. She is all I got." At a December hearing, Sparks testified that he denied the request because he believed homosexual conduct was illegal in Pennsylvania.

The visitation at issue in the case is non-contact visitation.

—James Waller

Lesbian co-parent seeks rights in court

NEW YORK—A state court heard oral arguments January 8 on whether a lesbian parent who raised a child with her former lover, who is the biological parent, should be allowed to seek visitation rights as a parent. Because this case, *In the matter of Alison D.*, is the first in the nation to go to an appellate

court, it could establish important standards for the legal recognition of non-biological lesbian parents.

The case—which uses only first names and last initials to protect the interests of the child—was filed in Poughkeepsie, NY by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund nearly two years ago on behalf of Alison D., a non-biological mother whose former lover cut-off visitation with their son.

According to Lambda, Alison D. and Virginia M. met in 1977, and had been in a relationship for several years when Virginia became pregnant by donor insemination and gave birth to their son in 1981. The couple raised the child together, sharing equally in their financial and emotional commitment to him. When their son was two years old, Alison gave birth to a daughter, who also was conceived through donor insemination. Several months later, in November 1983, Virginia and Alison ended their relationship, and Alison moved out of the family home.

The two women agreed that Alison would have substantial visitation with their son. But sometime in 1986, Virginia began to limit Alison's visitation, and in July 1987, she completely cut off visitation when Alison moved out of the country to take a temporary position in Dublin, Ireland, her new lover's native country, according to Lambda.

Before considering the move, Alison had solicited Virginia's repeated assurances that the relationship she developed with their son would be maintained through phone calls, cards and visits. Immediately after Alison and her partner left for Ireland, Virginia cut off all contact between Alison and their son despite her previous promises. Virginia never tried to maintain a relationship with their daughter, a Lambda press release said.

After attempts at negotiation failed, Alison sought Lambda's assistance and, in February 1988, filed a petition for visitation, which the court refused, maintaining that, as a matter of law, a parent "is a biological parent and not otherwise." On appeal, Lambda has repudiated this narrow defini-

tion of parenthood and maintains that many lesbians who raise children with their partners are parents who should be given a right to seek visitation in the event of the couples' separation.

Paula Ettebrick, Lambda's legal director and the attorney who represents Alison, told *OutWeek*, "In New York, as in many states, courts have already found that other non-biological adults, like step-parents, have rights to visitation when they have functioned as a parent in the child's life. We are simply urging the court to extend the law to non-biological lesbian mothers. It's time for the court to recognize that lesbians are having children and that these relationships *must* be legally protected."

The opposing side chose not to appear at the oral argument. The court will rule within the next few months on whether the case can, in fact, go forward.

New trial for lesbian marine

A lesbian corporal in the United States Marine Corps who was court-martialed on sodomy charges in 1988 and spent six months in a military prison has been given the chance for a new trial and the possibility that charges against her may be dismissed.

According to a release issued by the American Civil Liberties Union, which filed a friend-of-the-court brief on behalf of the corporal, Barbara Baum, the Marine Corps has conceded that Baum's conviction was constitutionally flawed and should therefore be voided.

Baum was one of dozens of women rounded up during a "witch hunt" at the Corps' Parris Island, South Carolina base during late 1987 and early 1988. She and two others were subjected to court martial. The others, Cheryl Jameson and Glenda Jones, served sentences of six months and a year, respectively. All three women are now out of jail.

In addition, several women military personnel who acted as character witnesses for the defendants were subjected to disciplinary sanctions by the Corps. A total of 65 women were court-martialed, discharged, forced to resign, sanctioned or otherwise injured by the Corps' Parris Island investigation.

According to Bill Rubenstein of the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights project, which in a separate case is also representing former staff sergeant Christine Hilinski, one of the character witnesses sanctioned by the Corps, the decision to review Baum's case is an

important victory for the movement to secure the rights of lesbians and gay men who choose military service.

"It shows them they can't get away with the witch hunts they had back in the 40s and 50s," Rubenstein said. "The case is interesting because it's being fought so hard. If everyone fought them like this, they'd be spending their whole budget just litigating these cases."

The unconstitutionality of Baum's conviction centers on the trial judge's error in not excusing a juror who was tainted with prior knowledge of the



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Out Takes

case. The juror, had been present at the hearing at which Baum had been indicted. The ACLU's Rubenstein, who believes that such breaches of constitutionality may be quite common in courts martial against homosexuals, quipped that Baum's case was a good illustration "of the old joke that 'military justice is to justice as military music is to music.'"

Hilinski was demoted from her position as drill sergeant after testifying to Baum's superior soldiership. In a memorandum justifying the sanction, the Corps, according to Rubenstein, said that Hilinski had "shown poor judgment because of her leniency on homosexuality."

The Parris Island debacle served as a major impetus to the founding of the Military Freedom Project, a joint enterprise of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Organization for Women, the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the ACLU.

According to NGLTF staffer Robert Bray, continuing witch hunts to purge gay people from the military services—including a purge of gay men now underway at Carswell Air Force Base in Fort Worth, Texas—demonstrate that "next to immigration, the military is the last bastion of legal, institutionalized discrimination against lesbians and gays." —James Waller

Gay man, Black woman lead Twin City council

MINNEAPOLIS—An African-American woman and a gay man took the helm of the Minneapolis city council on January 2. The overwhelming Democratic Farmer Labor (DFL) party majority elected Sharon Sayles Belton (DFL-ward 8) council president and Brian Coyle (DFL-ward 6) council vice president.

"I am thrilled that the council caucus didn't let issues of race and sexual



Sharon Sayles Belton

identity prejudice their choices for city council leadership," said Coyle, who was the first openly gay man elected to the city council in 1983.

Their election is considered a triumph of DFL progressives over the city's traditional Democrats. Belton and Coyle promise aggressive advocacy on progressive issues, such as neighborhood revitalization, civilian



Brian Coyle

Photo: Laurel Cazin

review of the police, environmental questions, AIDS and domestic partner legislation for unmarried straight and

gay couples.

The DFL caucus, which includes 12 of the 13 council members, created a new Health, Environment and Human Development Committee. "The new committee creates a home in a policy committee for discussions and implementation of programs for other people issues," said Sayles Belton, who was first elected in 1983.

Tim Campbell, Minneapolis gay activist and *GLC Voice* publisher, was reserved with his praise for Coyle, "Like two other elected officials in Minnesota who are also gay, Representative Karen Clark and Senator Alan Spear, Coyle shies away from being pigeonholed as a one-issue politician."

But Campbell added, "This does not diminish the fact that the mere election of an openly gay man to this position is a major mark of progress in the drive for gay acceptance."

—David Anger

Law schools ban anti-gay bias

SAN FRANCISCO—The House of Representatives of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), meeting here January 6, voted to add a by-laws provision which would require member law schools to adopt policies forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, handicap or disability and age, and to apply those policies in the operation of law school placement offices. These classifications were added to existing by-laws forbidding discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion or national origin.

Under AALS regulations, religiously-affiliated schools may be excused from complying with requirements which would violate the tenets of their religion. The AALS Executive Committee will meet in May to consider whether the regulation should be amended to end this exemption.

The vote followed a plenary ses-

sion at which Craig Christensen, president of the Law School Admission Services and former Dean of Syracuse University Law School, told a rapt audience about his experience of being passed over for the position of Vice-Chancellor of the university because he was an openly gay man.

After the House of Representatives meeting, the Society of American Law Teachers gave its Annual Teaching Award to Professor Rhonda R. Rivera of Ohio State University, a prominent lesbian legal activist who was co-founder of the AALS Section on Gay and Lesbian Legal Issues and is a leading officer of several lesbian and gay organizations in Ohio, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

—Art Leonard

Broadway AIDS bias case settled

NEW YORK—Choreographer Michael Shawn is the victor in one of the largest monetary recoveries ever in an AIDS discrimination dispute. Shawn's attorneys announced last week that James M. Nederlander and other producers of the 1988 Broadway musical *Legs Diamond* had settled, for \$175,000, Shawn's precedent-setting lawsuit.

Shawn, the show's original choreographer, charged that the producers fired him when they learned of his HIV-positive status. The producers' motion to have Shawn's suit dismissed was overruled in New York State Supreme Court last September, and they were consequently compelled to disclose memoranda revealing that their decision to fire him came after hearing rumors that he was taking medication for an AIDS-related illness.

Reacting to the news, Shawn is quoted as saying, "I'm overjoyed by what we've accomplished — I feel that it's not only a personal vindication, but also a victory for all people with AIDS who face employment discrimination."

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Out Takes

Getting sacked by the *Legs* producers didn't sap Shawn's energy. Since then, besides successfully fighting his former employers' action, he has gone on to choreograph other productions, including a large-scale musical that opened three months ago in West Germany. —James Waller

800 gay Danes marry in first 20 days

COPENHAGEN, Denmark—As Danish gay and lesbian activists anxiously await the release of official statistics on the first four months of Denmark's first-in-the-world legal gay marriages, the newspaper *Berlingske Tidende* did an informal survey and found that 400 couples were married in the 20 days after the law took effect Oct. 1.

Activists had been surprised when only 11 couples turned up for an Oct. 1 mass wedding at the Copenhagen Town Hall and only later realized that the anticipated presence of hundreds of news reporters and scores of camera crews scared off most couples who were ready to tie the knot.

Since then, anticipation has built steadily in wait for the nation's triannual statistical report.

Berlingske Tidende, meanwhile, compiled its count of 400 about three weeks after the first weddings by phoning the town halls in major cities according to Else Slange, president of the Danish National Association for Gays and Lesbians (LBL).

"Obviously the real number after three months now is much greater," Slange said in a phone interview. "We will keep phoning the officials until we get the statistics."

In the meantime, LBL continues to fight two deficiencies in the gay marriage law that ban gay adoption and allow the state Lutheran church

to refuse to offer gay weddings.

The issue is being hotly debated within the church and Slange says LBL has opted, for the moment, to let theologians and pastors argue the matter out among themselves before making its next move.

"They have to find their own legs on the earth, as we say in Danish," Slange said. "It's only a minority that oppose it, but they shout so loud."

A recent national opinion poll of 1,200 Danes found that 64 percent support the gay marriage law. Among those under age 50, the figure rises to 73-80 percent in various age brackets. Slange called those figures "really good."

Elsewhere in Scandinavia, a gay marriage bill is set for introduction in the Nor-

wegian parliament in February and should see some action by June, according to the national gay group there.

And in Sweden, Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson and other officials have publicly stated their support for gay marriage and legislation will be introduced Jan. 25. The Swedish parliament, however, will likely not address the matter for several months, according to RFSL, the Swedish Federation for Gay and Lesbian Rights.

The Danish law has sparked drives for gay marriage throughout Western Europe, with activists in France particularly desirous of catching up with their neighbors to the North, according to reports in the Paris magazine *Gai Pied*.

—Rex Wockner



Moving East

DETROIT—Angela Bowen and A. Billy S. Jones (above), who co-chair the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays, have announced the December resignation of NCBLG executive director Renee McCoy and the relocation of the organization's headquarters from Detroit, Michigan to Washington, D.C. The reasons for McCoy's resignation were not made public, but Bowen and Jones said that NCBLG understood McCoy's need to make a change and supported her effort to move on to other things.

The coalition, which brings together African-American lesbian and gay groups from a number of cities nationwide and which publishes the newsletter *Black/Out*, is concentrating on setting up its new D.C. office and on the final phase of planning its annual forum, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, from February 16 through 19. Though the new office doesn't have a phone yet, NCBLG's leaders invite requests for information at the following address: NCBLG, P.O. Box 19248, Washington, D.C. 20036.

—James Waller

Obituary

Nathaniel Harris Pier, M.D.



Nathaniel H. Pier, M.D., age 37, of New York City, died December 17, 1989 of AIDS. Dr. Pier was a tireless advocate for people with AIDS. He was one of the earliest pioneers in AIDS treatment to attempt to organize the community physicians and people with AIDS, to develop information networks to expand the knowledge of this disease, to create humane and practical approaches to AIDS, and to develop community-based organizations and structures that advocate for and provide treatments for the community of people with AIDS.

Dr. Pier graduated summa cum laude from the University of California at Berkeley in 1974. He graduated from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 1977 and then trained at The New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center, in pediatrics through 1980. Later, he also completed a fellowship in neurological diseases at the Royal Post Graduate Medical School, University of London, Hammersmith Hospital. Dr. Pier was a prominent activist in the lesbian and gay community in New York. He gave generously of his time to many of the community's organizations in the past decade, including being a founding board member of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center on 13th Street. He

was a vocal and frequently quoted critic of government and, on several occasions, he induced federal agencies and pharmaceutical companies to speed up the testing of promising treatments. He was a member of the staff at St. Mark's Clinic Community Health Project, founding member of New York

Physicians for Human Rights, member of the Board of Directors of the Community Health Project and member of the Institutional Review Board of the Community Research Initiative. He also maintained a general practice in New York since 1984, as a physician to hundreds of people with AIDS.

Dr. Pier is survived by his lover, Michael Hannaway, his mother Mollie Pier and two brothers Kenneth and Gerald Pier. A memorial service will be held at a later date for members of the community who have known and worked with Dr. Pier during his career and in this fight to eradicate AIDS. In addition, a memorial fund will be set up in Dr. Pier's name to provide drugs for people with AIDS who cannot obtain them. For further information about the memorial service and the memorial fund, call the Community Research Initiative, New York (212) 481-1050 or the office of Christopher Hoy (212) 787-7820. —Frederick Nesetrik

Obituary Policy

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B·O·S·T·O·N

SODOMY from page 17

what individual liberty is all about. And the state has no right making that determination for any of us."

After nearly two hours of speeches, the throng moved to a nearby intersection in attempts at blocking traffic, only to be held back by a phalanx of police officers.

After a small group carrying bedclothes ran into the intersection in front of moving cars, police arrested the group and stepped up their crowd control efforts. That caused the activists to scatter to no fewer than two other intersections to block the midday traffic.

Despite being mocked for the practice in an earlier skit featuring activists as the "sex police," at least four arresting officers were seen wearing rubber gloves. A handful of others were reported to have been seen wearing them under their winter gloves.

As with most anti-sodomy law demonstrations, which have become her specialty, NGLTF's Hyde closed her speech by urging event participants to break the lambasted state statute, adding that it is no kind of deterrent.

"Really," she said. "How many of us this weekend said, 'I'd love to, honey, but there's a sodomy law in Georgia?'

Those arrested each pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct charges and paid a fine, foreiting their right to a trial, and obviating the need to return to Atlanta for one. ▼

CDC from page 19

ed financial and housing assistance.

After police declined to arrest the "T-200" group once they lay down in the street—as they had already closed off the street to traffic—the group then moved to an adjoining CDC office building and took over a small office where they then held a cramped press conference.

Halfway into the demonstration, a group of eleven demonstrators climbed a ladder to the roof of the main building to hang a banner reading "CDC Kills." As they had taken the ladder up with them and had previously staked out the building, they managed to leave the roof before police could reach them by the stairs.

Causing mild consternation for some of the protesters, three anti-gay

counter-demonstrators stood in the thick of the action carrying signs saying "Gay is Not O.K." When one of the men sought to place himself in the line of sight of cameras shooting the protesters, a group of activists surrounded him with their own signs, following him up and down the street as he tried to escape them. After a brief "kiss-in," the group dispersed.

Earlier, one protester, Marty Robinson of ACT UP/NY, was reportedly arrested on battery charges for allegedly assaulting one of the anti-gay counter-demonstrators after a verbal altercation. ▼

PREGO from page 23

courtroom appearances, as "frail" and "wan-looking." Though she is of slight build and could not be called robust, Prego is a good-looking, high-cheekboned woman who does not, in fact, appear to be ill at the moment. The media's sympathy-mongering seems to be in accord with the strategy of Prego's attorneys, who, among other tactics, brought Prego's mother forward as their first witness when testimony began on Monday.

Newspaper accounts have tended to bolster misconceptions about AIDS, such as that PWAs can be divided into the "innocent" and the "non-innocent," that AIDS sufferers are continuously sick and that someone who contracts the disease is guaranteed a lifespan that, from that point on, will necessarily be brief and unremittingly horrible.

No matter how the case is ultimately decided the conclusion is likely to carry some unsatisfactory residue for both sides. If the jury rules in Prego's favor, the decision will imply that it is possible to determine with reasonable certainty the precise route of HIV transmission even in cases where other plausible avenues exist. If her lawsuit fails, that outcome may buttress the carelessness and unconcern for their employees' welfare that continue to characterize the procedures of too many medical institutions.

The latter issue makes the case one that is being closely followed by officials at Local 1199 of the Drug, Hospital and Health Care Union,

which represents thousands of New York workers who daily perform duties similar to those required of Prego during her externship.

Commenting on the trial, Lenore Colbert, 1199's director of safety and health, said, "Of course it's a terrible thing that happened [to Prego], but the establishment seems to think it's just doctors and nurses who need protection.

"We're hoping the trial brings to the forefront just how desperately standards are needed and that it helps make sure OSHA [Occupational Safety and Health Administration, a federal agency] regulations can be put into place everywhere," she said.

Colbert underlined the fact that the duties Prego performed as an extern were basically those ordinarily done by housekeeping staff. "Even now," she said, "vaccine for hepatitis B, for example, is usually only offered to doctors, nurses and some social workers. What about housekeepers? We're very concerned."

Some discussion has been raised concerning the impact of a Prego victory on the willingness of hospital workers and other care-givers to work with people with AIDS. But an *Out-Week* source, an AIDS educator who has long monitored the health-care scene in this city, said she doubted the case would have any effect whatsoever in this regard. "We didn't have that much trouble even during the 'panic' years of 1985 and 86," she said.

This source, who prefers anonymity, complimented Prego and her attorneys for making very clear that they do not believe AIDS can be contracted through casual contact. She also said that she though Prego's argument was a strong one: "If the doctor [Fogel] did what Prego said she did, this goes against clinical practice dating back to the 1940s. Hospital workers should be discouraged from working in hospitals that don't take care of them."

Besides the Health and Hospitals Corporation and Dr. Fogel, Prego has also brought suit against Dr. Sheldon Landesman, whom she charges with having disregarded confidentiality and spread news of her HIV-positive status among hospital coworkers. ▼



MARTINE

Patricia Field

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GLAAD TIDINGS

by Craig Davidson

In Texas, the grinch is alive and well and stole Christmas.

Charitable drives to help the needy are one of the staples of the holiday season—coats and toys for kids, food drives to help the poor and homeless. Unobjectionable, even praiseworthy, you would think.

But not in Texas, where the State Department of Health has refused to help the food pantry run by the AIDS Resource Center project of the Dallas Gay Alliance. That project currently supports 402 people with AIDS who are either too sick or too poor to provide for themselves.

The Health Department has invoked a law that it says prohibits them from supporting organizations that advocate or promote conduct that violates state law. By their reasoning: homosexual acts are illegal in Texas, the Dallas Gay Alliance works

for equal rights for gay people, the food pantry project is associated with the Alliance, hence state law prohibits the Department from providing money to the Alliance so it can buy food for people with AIDS.

The logic here is non-existent, but the bigotry is obvious. To protest this inhumane decision, write to:

Dr. Robert Bernstein
Commissioner of Health
1100 W. 49th Street
Austin, TX 78756

We also urge you to show your support for the Dallas Gay Alliance and its food pantry project by writing to:

William Waybourne, Exec. Dir.
Dallas Gay Alliance
4012 Cedar Springs Rd.
Dallas, TX 75219



* * * * *

In contrast to the narrow-mindedness of Texas Health officials, the creators of a network television show have taken the small but sig-

nificant step from mere tolerance of gay people...to appreciation. Our phone rang off the hook during and after a recent episode of the CBS sitcom, *Doctor, Doctor*, which has a recurring, positive gay character who is the brother of the doctor of the title.

In this episode, the doctor introduces his gay brother to a straight friend. The friend's initial discomfort subsides when he realizes that he has a lot in common with the brother, but comes flooding back when the gay man gets intimate in a casual, non-sexual sort of way.

The straight friend proceeds to offend the gay brother by cancelling a joint weekend trip to New York. As the brother leaves, he says "I look at you and see a friend. You look at me and all you see is a fag."

In the next few scenes the doctor helps his friend confront his stereotypes about gays—and his hypocrisy. Interestingly, some of these scenes, standing alone, could be problematical from a defamation point of view, but in context, we found them to be well-intended—even instructive.

When the gay brother returns from his trip, a reconciliation occurs. What is new and wonderful is that the straight man doesn't just say, "I accept your being gay;" he says, "I want a gay friend."

Just one of our regular correspondents complained about this episode. He found the "I want gay a friend" line patronizing, the equivalent of somebody saying "Some of my best friends are Black or Jewish or whatever." We agree that the dialogue walked a tightrope in this regard; we disagree that it ever fell off.

To register your approval of *Doctor, Doctor*, the gay character on the show and this touching episode in particular (or, if you wish, to express your concern) write to:

Norman Steinberg
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Doctor, Doctor
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ON 30

Towards Perestroika In The USA

by Mark Harrington

Life is worth living, and the possibility for change exists.
—activist Gregg Borodowitz at an ACT UP civil disobedience training, February 1988

It is a strange feeling, at the start of the 1990s, to feel so much more solidarity with this sudden, worldwide, stunning eruption of dissidence and activism than with the prevailing mood here in America—ignoble America—which has just, with shockingly little outcry, installed yet another Latin American puppet state.

For some reason the holiday season makes Republicans blood-thirsty. Remember Nixon's Christmas bombing of Hanoi? Before December 20, I was wondering how the US military industrial complex was going to deal with the end of the Cold War. I noted that pundits were saying "it's too early to distribute the peace dividend." I heard an absurd comment on a radio news show; a NATO officer was saying "Freedom is breaking out all over Eastern Europe. We've got to maintain a vigorous defensive posture." In the meantime, military cuts will be used to cut the deficit, not to fund desperately needed initiatives here at home—housing, health care, education.

The right wingers are using drug dealers as scapegoats.

—William Burroughs, *Drug-store Cowboy*

There are basically two alternatives facing the USA in the 1990s. The powers that be, desperate at the prospect of losing their hold on elective office, the media and the Federal budget, will labor mightily to come up with a credible threat

to American well-being, and so they have cooked up the "War on Drugs." This entails as an ill-concealed subtext an all-out assault on drug users in particular and on people of color in general. The enormous apparatus of death aimed against the Red Menace for the last 45 years will turn southwards, menacing the emerging democracies of Latin America abroad and ignoring the "plagues" of AIDS, crack and homelessness at home in a punitive War on the Poor.

What is the other alternative? It is one embodied, in microcosm, by ACT UP since 1987 and by other newer dissent movements since them—artists angry about censorship, women angry about the assault on abortion.

I was struck, when I visited my friend with AIDS and my family in San

disease and cancer are killing more Americans than AIDS (read more rich, white, old Americans—though they kill all kinds; they are not *infectious diseases*; they are not *increasing exponentially*).

And my friend, who lives ten minutes away, might as well be living in Vietnam. Nixon made the final five years of war domestically acceptable through the expedient of "Vietnamization"—letting the South Vietnamese fight the war (though we still paid); Bush is going to let the AIDS community fight our war *alone*, a house on fire confused as one of the thousand points of "light." We are the Vietnamese now, and America is letting us fight the war it has unleashed—by genocidal indifference—upon us in the gay community and in communities of color, if the word "community" even applies. What "community" is made up of tens of thousands of people isolated in ill health and kept in deliberate ignorance of new treatment possibilities which could keep them (us) alive? Where are the bus and subway and radio ads about T-cell testing and PCP prophylaxis? Where is the massive nationwide campaign to fund and disseminate information about new treatments and the treatments themselves?

They are nowhere. They are in our heads. We have the potential to make these dreams of life real. We will need to analyze our history and critically isolate those actions which have been most successful, and emulate them and enhance whatever made them work.

I think we are entering an era when demonstrations and zaps must be even more carefully created to arouse interest from a bored media.

—Larry Kramer, December, 1989

We are not alone. That fact, if nothing else, the events of fall 1989 make clear. We are not alone. The

We are the Vietnamese now, and America is letting us fight the war it has unleashed—by genocidal indifference.

Francisco over Christmas 1989, at the abyss that separates their lives. They live ten minutes away from each other: my family secure in their house on the hill, endlessly discussing new restaurants with their friends. California has become obsessively, almost orgiastically culinary in the last ten years. In the meantime city officials described the recent earthquake (in which ten San Franciscans were killed) as "the worst disaster since 1906," ignoring the 4,000 who have died there of AIDS in the last ten years. Bush rushed out to inspect the torn up Bay Bridge in a helicopter. Congress appropriated \$3.6 billion dollars in earthquake relief—twice the AIDS research budget for 1990! And we are told that AIDS research funding has peaked, that heart

meetings of Civic Forum at the Magic Lantern Theater in Prague sound an awful lot like the meetings of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power at the Lesbian and Gay Community Center in Manhattan. There are differences. Most obviously, the citizens of repressive Czechoslovakia understood that their government routinely lied to them, that it held their interests far from its heart. It is an irony of repressive societies that their citizens have a higher political consciousness than members of a consumer society. We could not call a general strike and have the entire nation stop working for two hours. But there is a lot we can do. We can make science accountable to its premises: rationality and social function. We can make government live up to its constitutional obligations: "Provide for the common defense. Promote the general welfare." In 1990, we shall do to the National Institutes of Health (and the Center for Disease Control) what we did to the Food and Drug Administration in 1988. In 1990, President Bush and Governor Cuomo will hear the same message Mayor Koch got, too late, in 1989. Why can't we do what we did on March 28, 1989 (at City Hall) and on December 10 (at St. Patrick's) six, eight or 12 times in 1990? Why can't we stage major, well conceived, strategically executed actions every month? Why can't we do these things together, as ACT UP used to in its earlier days, and tell everyone who can to come—in February, to Albany (to the seat of State power and money), in March, to Bethesda (against the murderous National Institutes of Health research establishment), in April, to Chicago (with ACT NOW against the insurance industry), in June, to San Francisco (the site of the AIDS industry's annual conclave—the International AIDS Conference).

ACT UP's goal is not only to save the lives of people with AIDS and HIV, but also to create and embody a set of new conditions in which to live—diverse, egalitarian, argumentative and loving. May we survive to join with other groups and stage a peaceful revolution in our corrupt and complacent America. Let us go forth and seed the activist movements of the 1990s. ▼



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KRAMER VS ...

A monthly column by Larry Kramer

Our Gay "Leaders"

The *New York Native's* political columnist, Thomas Jackson, a.k.a. Leonard Goldstein, recently printed his guest list of the over 100 supposed Who's Who of New York's gay political community, and who were invited to his Christmas party. With the exception of less than a dozen, I realized how few were men and women 1) of quality, stature and integrity; or 2) I had ever heard of; or 3) I trusted; or 4) who actually fought for us.

As always, this realization—that we have no leaders who are any good—terrified me.

As always, I realize: no wonder we have been in such trouble and for so long.

As always, I ask the question: how much longer can we go on and on and on pissing away so much time?

When Damien Martin, the founder of the Hetrick-Martin Institute, threatens the job of one of his best teachers, Ann Northrop, because she participated in the recent ACT UP-WHAM! protest inside St. Patrick's Cathedral, we're in trouble.

When the board of Human Rights Campaign Fund—acknowledging that we desperately need a first-rate leader in Washington and that Lambda's Tom Stoddard is (quite frankly) first on their list, instead elects for its executive director a weak, compromise candidate who's been invisible since he was chosen, we're in trouble.

When one of our leading gay doctors, Ron Grossman, and one of our leading p.r. men, Ethan Getto and one of our leading health advocates, Jim Foster (of San Francisco), sign on as paid consultants to Lyphomed, the greedy, profiteering manufacturers of

aerosolized pentamidine, which is available for \$30 in England but costs \$200 here, and when these three gay Uncle Toms defend the right of Lyphomed to charge whatever they want to, in effect bleeding to death their own dying brothers and sisters, we're in trouble.

When gay entertainment giant, David Geffen (who is also on the board of AmFar); 1) produces and/or distributes through his own company, Geffen Records and 2) produces and/or distributes through WEA, the powerful consortium in which he is a giant shareholder and in which he has a commanding voice, the recordings of such supreme anti-gay bigots as Sam Kinison and Guns 'n' Roses and Skid Row and Ice T and Donna Summer

organization (National Gay Rights Advocates), summarily fires a talented staff that has devoted years to fighting for us, and all because of some egomaniacal selfishness, we're in trouble.

When the first movie is finally made about AIDS and it turns out to be as heartwrenching as writer Craig Lucas' and director Norman Rene's *Lifetime Companion* and this film, which I spent two hours weeping through, cannot find a distributor, even from Fox's gay chairman, Barry Diller, or Geffen Productions' David Geffen, or Orion's president, Arthur (husband of Dr. Mathilde) Krim, we're in trouble.

When it takes the board of GMHC (an organization that must perform crucial tasks on a daily basis) almost a year to decide upon a new executive director, and three years to get rid of his tragically inept predecessor, we're in trouble.

When the *Washington Blade* refuses to take strong, crusading stands against our political enemies and assume a desperately needed inspirational

journalistic leadership in that blind, banal city of nincompoops, we're in trouble.

When organizations as vital to our survival as Community Research Initiative and AIDS Treatment Registry have difficulty staying alive because our community refuses to support them financially, we're in trouble.

When it is the gay vote that elected a new mayor, and that new mayor has been as rude and ignoble and insulting to us as David Dinkins has been since we elected him, and not one of the over 100 "leaders" who went to Jackson's party says boo about it, we're in trouble.

When AmFAR can allow not only David Geffen on its board but also a horror show like Woody Myers, we're in trouble.

and Big Daddy Kane and moreover defends their right to make international mincemeat of us, we're in trouble.

When AmFAR can allow not only David Geffen on its board but also a horror show like Woody Myers, we're in trouble.

When our leading openly gay congressperson, Barney Frank, is so desperate that he has to carry on with such a tacky hooker, knowing there's no way someone's not going to find out eventually, and lets us down so terribly, we're in trouble.

When Jean O'Leary, who represents us on the Democratic National Committee, destroys an acutely needed

What wonderful role models.

Is it any wonder that ACT UP is so terrified of what's happened to every previous gay organization that it refuses to let anyone lead it, or allow any committee or individual to assume anything remotely resembling responsibility—in so doing preferring to succumb (unfortunately, I think) to a lack of focus and a shirking of the responsibilities it must now assume? Because no one else is assuming them.

Yes, we're in trouble.

We are taking too long to get our act together.

And yet I am told over and over that "the movement" has made great progress.

All I know is that we're in the tenth year of a seemingly endless epidemic, (which Dr. Samuel Broder of the National Cancer Institute has said publicly is curable) and that, if it were happening to Jews, would be over by now. Jews would have had their leaders in place by Year One, their organizations in place by Year Two, their many financial resources at work pressuring and lobbying by Year Three, all their doctors and scientists supervising the research by Year Four, and their Nobel Prizes for their successful results by Year Five.

And I, an HIV-positive Jew, would live to a ripe old age.

I hope all you "leaders" had a wonderful time at "Tommy Jackson's" party. ▼



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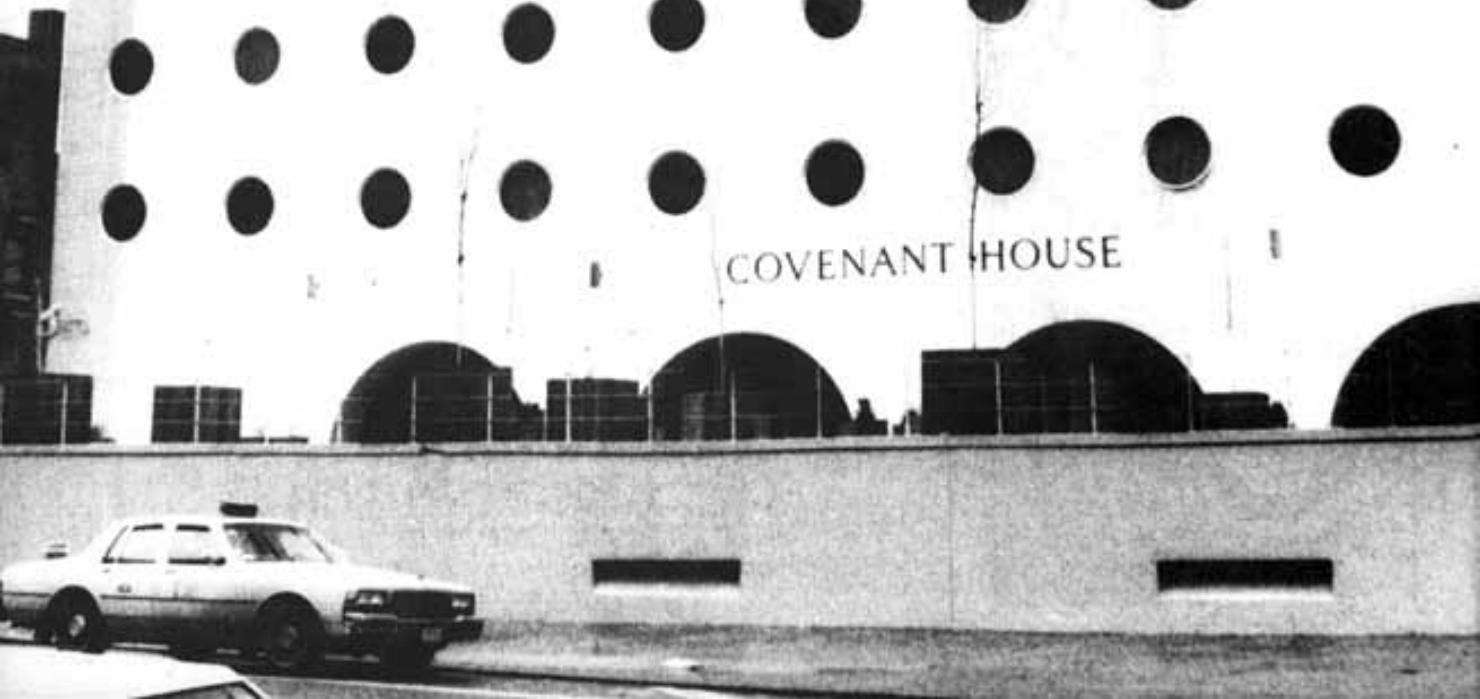
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OUTWEEK EXCLUSIVE

Cover-Up House?

**Kevin Kite Talks About
his Relationship with Father
Bruce Ritter and Covenant House
by Gabriel Rotello**

COVENANT HOUSE



When Father Bruce Ritter, the head of Covenant House and one of the city's most powerful and revered Catholic priests, was publicly accused last December of taking sexual advantage of a troubled young man in a Covenant House program and using Covenant House funds to pay for the man's apartment and provide him with gifts, the New York press reacted with outrage. The story blared from the tabloid covers for two days, follow-up articles streamed out of TV and magazine news departments, and call-in radio shows had a field day. Ritter, whom President Reagan had once praised during a State of the Union Address as a model of volunteerism, denied everything.

The basic charges against him came from a former hustler identified as Tim Warner but whom, it would later be revealed, was really named Kevin Kite. A runaway originally from Dallas, Kite had appeared at Covenant House in New Orleans in early 1989 asking for help and protection. As he told it, Father Ritter took a liking to him, brought him to New York, set him up in an apartment and provided him with access to a college education. According to Kite, the price that he paid for these services was to provide services of his own to Father Ritter - sexual services every Sunday night for the duration of the arrangement.

An underlying but perhaps even more scandalous charge centers around Kite's claim that, though the two did not use condoms together, Father Ritter urged Kite to practice safer sex with anyone else he might engage in sex with. This is in sharp contradiction with the church's stance on condom use and Covenant House's strict forbiddance of any AIDS advocates giving out condoms to teenagers who live there.

When the Manhattan DA's office confirmed the fact that a serious investigation was in progress regarding the alleged misuse of Covenant House funds, and that Kite had been moved into a witness program, many felt that Ritter's only choice was to resign. But then the unexpected happened.

Covenant House has long had a policy of affording complete privacy to its many young runaways, who frequently run afoul of the police. The strict rules of the House requires it to turn down requests from the police even when serious crimes are alleged. Yet in this case Covenant House suddenly forgot its grant of anonymity and produced Kite's father, an anti-gay religious fundamentalist from Texas, who proceeded to denounce his homosexual son. In what has been described as a carefully orchestrated press conference, the father asserted that young Kevin was not as young as he claimed, that his name wasn't Warner and that he had a history as a compulsive liar.

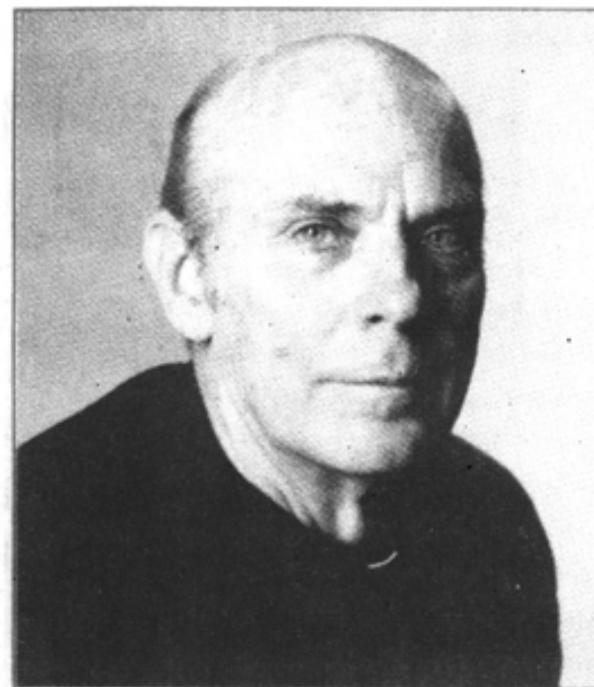
The revelations that Kevin had indeed apparently lied about his name and age had a sobering effect on the press, and the story began to recede from view.

OutWeek, however, has kept a careful eye on the case. One salient point that came to light is the fact that the youth's alias as 19-year-old Tim Warner was an identity provided by *Covenant House itself*. When they gave Kevin his new name and age they provided him with a social security number, a drivers license and a college scholarship all under the name Tim Warner, and told him *never* to reveal his original name to anyone for security reasons. Their decision to expose his alias without revealing that they were responsible for it, highlights the tension they must be feeling as well as their determination to clear Ritter.

Another fact soon to receive major play is the existence of a prior youth's charges against Ritter, charges now in possession of the *Village Voice*. According to *Voice* writer Phillip Nobile, a young man approached him in the mid-70s with a story virtually identical to Kite's. That young man was subjected to a lie detector test, which he passed, and he granted an extensive interview with Nobile, which we at *OutWeek* have obtained. That interview, soon

to be published in the *Village Voice*, corresponds with many of Kite's observations about Father Ritter in poignant detail.

During this investigative process, Kevin Kite called us and offered to grant *OutWeek* a rare interview. We questioned him closely about his relationship with Father Ritter, his reasons for going public and his hopes for the future. We found him to be credible, articulate and sincere, and remarkably free of the kind of publicity-mongering that characterized the Steven Gobie/Barney Frank case. Despite denials from Covenant House, we have found the verifiable facts presented by Kite to be accurate, while his unverifiable descriptions of life with Father Ritter correspond with the Nobile interview, which Kite could in no way have known about. Repeated calls from *OutWeek* to Covenant House—to speak with Father Ritter and/or to further verify facts about the organization—were not returned.



COLLARED?—Father Bruce Ritter

What follows is a transcript of *OutWeek's* exclusive interview with Kevin Kite conducted just days before he entered a hospital, having expressed fears that the pressure he'd been under had him contemplating suicide.

OutWeek: Tell us about your involvement with Covenant House and Bruce Ritter.

Kevin Kite: It started in New Orleans through Covenant House there. I was on vacation at Mardi Gras. I got my wallet picked. I had been working for an outcall service for a number of years. I had decided, even before I'd gone to Mardi Gras, that I was ready for a change of pace, a change of lifestyle. After all this happened, I went to Covenant House. I didn't even know who they were. I just thought I'd stay there until I could get money wired and go back home. Ritter was in town for some kind of meeting and he was just wandering through the lobby of Covenant House one day. And after that I was called upstairs by the executive director of Covenant House there who said Bruce was interested in taking a special interest in my case, that he would like to take me back to New York with him. He took a liking to me and he said, "Why



SUNDAY'S CHILD — *Kevin Kite*

Photo: T.L. Litt

don't you come back to New York? I can get you into college, whatever you want. I'll take care of you. This is what we do."

OW: Were you already staying in Covenant House as a client?

KK: I had stayed a couple of nights.

OW: What did Father Ritter say when you ran into him in the lobby?

KK: We just talked. He said, "You seem bright," and "What's your story?" and I told him I was just here for Mardi Gras.

OW: Did he tell you who he was?

KK: The place was abuzz. Everybody knew who he was by that point.

OW: Was he wearing a collar?

KK: At that point he was. But when we flew back to New York, of course, he wasn't. He doesn't wear it very often.

OW: But he was dressed as a priest when you met him?

KK: Yes.

OW: And what kind of things did he say to you?

KK: Just "you're bright, intelligent, why don't you come back to New York? We have more opportunities for you there. Why don't you leave this life behind and just forget it? Come back to New York."

OW: Did you sense any sexual interest when you first met him?

KK: Yeah, but then I thought, you're being stupid, this is a priest who has this huge organization, you're being weird.

OW: Did he try to pick you up?

KK: Looking back on it now I'd say yes, but at the time, no, I didn't get the feeling I was being picked up.

OW: So he said come back to New York and live at Covenant House?

KK: Right. "We'll get you in our Rites of Passage program. We'll get you in the college." So we flew back to New York the next day. When we got back here we went up to the old Astor Mansion in Rhinebeck, and we went up there for the weekend and that's when the whole thing started.

OW: You didn't stay at Covenant House in New York?

KK: I've never stayed at Covenant House in New York.

OW: So you got back to New York and you immediately went up to this mansion?

KK: Right. It's the house you've seen from circling helicopters.

OW: Did you think it was odd that you came back to New York with this priest and you immediately went up to this man-

sion?

KK: I thought it was pretty bizarre, but I'm thinking weird about this man. Here's this priest who's done all these great things and at that point I didn't know what I know now.

OW: What was going on at this mansion?

KK: Nothing. There was the mansion and the teahouse. We stayed in the teahouse.

OW: Did you stay in the same room?

KK: There was only one bedroom.

OW: Did you sleep in the same bed?

KK: Yes.

OW: Did you have sex with him?

KK: Mutual masturbation and oral sex at some point later.

OW: He went down on you?

KK: Yes.

OW: So can you describe how this happened?

KK: Well if you don't know by now [laughs]. The first night nothing happened, really. I got even stranger feelings that something was gonna happen. But then the second night I was there, there was a fold away bed in the teahouse, a couch in the TV room because the house was not meant to be lived in, just for serving tea. So he unfolded the couch, got undressed and went to bed. I was laying on the floor watching TV and he said "Why don't you get up in bed so I can go to sleep." So I got up in bed and started watching TV and he started reaching over and getting really friendly.

OW: What do you mean getting really friendly?

KK: He started fondling me.

OW: How long did you stay in Rhinebeck?

KK: We stayed there the entire weekend.

OW: Came back on Monday?

KK: Right.

OW: How many times did you have sex while you were up there?

KK: Twice the first time. And then each time we went up there.

OW: Did you talk about it the next day?

KK: Oh, he apologized profusely.

OW: Really? What did he say?

KK: "I'm sorry, I'm sorry, it will never happen again. I'm sorry this happened. I don't want you to feel like you have to do this."

OW: Did you feel like you had to do this?

KK: Yes.

OW: How come?

KK: Because there was no other way out, there was no way home. I'd been taken 2,000 miles away from home, in the middle of a place I'd never been to before, didn't know anyone, I thought, it will be over and he's gonna put me in Rites of Passage and it will just be over.

OW: So you drove back from Rhinebeck, and then what happened?

KK: He put me in the guest bedroom right next to his. I stayed there for little more than a week before he had an apartment ready for me. Then he moved me into my own apartment.

OW: Was there any explanation from him?

KK: He was afraid that people would come after me because it's not good to leave the prostitution business. It's very unsafe, very unwise. But what danger is there if you've flown someone thousands of miles away from everybody who could have been after you?

OW: Were you in danger?

KK: No.

OW: Was it a problem that you were working as a prostitute in Dallas?

KK: I didn't think so. I felt no danger. But after he had talked to me I began to think, well, maybe there was a danger. He said, "They're all mob run, they'll come after you" and all this.

OW: So he told you that, but you never told him that you were in any danger?

KK: No.

OW: So there you were in this apartment. How was that paid for?

KK: Covenant House owns the building.

So I got up in bed and started watching TV and he started reaching over and getting really friendly.

OW: Did you feel at this point—

KK: That I was being kept?

OW: Was there an understanding that this was all happening in exchange for sex?

KK: Exactly.

OW: And were you continuing to have sex with him?

KK: Right, because I thought, how the hell do I get out of this? It's either sleep on the streets or—

OW: Did he tell you if you stopped sleeping with him he'd throw you out?

KK: He's not that direct. He used very implied terms, like "If you ever did anything to hurt Covenant House things would not be as good for you as they are now."

OW: What other things did he give you?

KK: Two color TVs, shopping, whatever I wanted, plus money, clothes.

OW: Did he seem to have a lot of money?

KK: No, this was Covenant House. Definitely. Covenant House does.

OW: But in your relationship did he seem pretty flush? I mean did you go out to good restaurants?

KK: Oh yeah, the best, he had a platinum American Express card and he paid for everything with it. That was our usual Sunday ritual that developed. When he was in town we went to dinner, a very nice dinner and went back to his apartment and had sex and I went home.

OW: When did he stop apologizing after sex?

KK: It continued. And then finally I said, "Stop. No more, I don't want to do this anymore."

OW: When was that?

KK: This is right before I went to the DA and sought help.

OW: When did you seek help?

KK: Right before Halloween.

OW: You went to the district attorney's office?

KK: I did not go to the district attorney's office. I went to the Rape and Crime Victim's Services in St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital.

OW: So you just went into St. Luke's...

KK: I called an attorney, a prominent sex attorney I had found out here in town. I thought, well, I'm gonna tell someone. He wasn't in, but this lady said why don't you call this number, which turned out to be the Crime Victims unit. A lady said come right in. Came to them, talked to them, and they in turn called Linda Fairstein who was out of town and she flew in from Louisville. And we started wiring conversations [with Ritter]. I can't talk too much about that, but they got what they wanted.

OW: How often did you wear a wire? A lot of times? A few?

KK: A few.

OW: But you didn't tell Bruce Ritter about this? You continued living in the apartment and sleeping with him?

KK: Right. To get an ironclad case at that point I was willing to do anything.

OW: Did the DA's office suggest that you continue doing that?

KK: They let me make the decision. No, they didn't say we want you to do this this and this. They said, it's up to you.

OW: How much time was there between the first time you went to St. Luke's and when you talked to Linda Fairstein?

KK: Two days.

OW: Did they seem very attentive to this case?

KK: Very. And still do. Very supportive, attentive, I can't fault them any way, I mean, they've been great.

OW: Who gave this story to the *Post*?

KK: I did. Because I heard on a radio talk show that once you went public with it nobody could hurt you. I didn't just want to disappear. I mean if he had found out any of this was going on he would have dumped me out on the street.

OW: You were afraid he was going to take your apartment away?

KK: That, and at that point I was being paranoid too. I was, like, taking on this huge institution. I would hate for anything to happen. Not that I thought anything would happen. I just didn't want to take the chance.

OW: Did he ever threaten you with physical violence?

KK: No. Never.

OW: Did you get scared?

KK: I think it was my own personal paranoia of telling these people and at that point I don't know if I trust the DA this much either. I didn't know who to trust because I know his political

power is tremendous so to cover all of my bases I thought, I'm going to tell somebody who has no interest and I chose the *Post* because they were the most anti-gay paper around that I had read. And I thought, if they believed me and they would do this, then I thought...

OW: You thought you'd be protected?

KK: Right.

OW: How much time passed between you contacting the DA's office and contacting the *Post*?

KK: About two days.

OW: How many days before the story ran?

KK: A month, maybe a little over a month. They sat on it very tightly.

OW: But what happened with the apartment and all that?

KK: The District Attorney had me moved out to my Riverdale place.

OW: Which Riverdale place?

KK: I went to school at Manhattan College.

OW: When did you start going to college out there?

KK: End of August.

OW: So you weren't still living in that Manhattan apartment?

KK: Yeah, I had both.

OW: Did you stay at school during the week and come back for weekends and have sex with him?

KK: Yes.

OW: When did he find out that you were talking to the DA?

KK: When the *Post* called him in New Orleans.

OW: Have you had any more direct contact with him at all?

KK: I don't care to have any.

OW: When did the *Post* call him in New Orleans?

KK: When they got permission from me to run the story. The day before they ran the article.

OW: Had you moved out by this point?

KK: Right before the story ran. It happened bam bam bam. I got out, the *Post* called Bruce, the story ran the next day.

OW: So they kept you there long enough—

KK: I don't like the words "they kept me there." I decided to make that because it was the only way I could prove my story. Even though I don't think Linda Fairstein ever doubted me. But making a court believe is different. And I definitely decided if that if I've done it this long, why just throw my hands up now and say forget it? That's defeating every purpose. I still have no beef with Covenant House, none at all. My beef is with Bruce Ritter. Misuse of trust.

OW: What made you decide to get out of the situation? Why would you want to accuse Bruce Ritter and leave. Why not go back to New Orleans?

KK: Because I didn't feel it was right what he was doing. He did it to me. I think it's horrible, after someone's made that huge decision to make a total change in lifestyle and to finally trust in

somebody again and then have somebody do this to you. And how many others had he done it to and who was he going to do it after I left? Instead of doing outcall service, now I was doing inhouse service.

OW: How did you feel about your life as a hustler before you met Ritter?

KK: It was fine all along. Towards the end I was getting too old to do it.

OW: Did you work as a hustler while you were living in his apartment?

KK: No.

OW: He contends that you did.

KK: His new story did.

OW: What did he say that you did?

KK: As far as I've ever heard he's been saying I've been bringing tricks home to my apartment.

OW: Did you ever do that?

KK: No. Because the times he contends that I've done it and the people that I've been with, I would say all of them would come forward to the DA and the DA has their names.

OW: Whose names?

KK: During the times he said I was bringing tricks to my apartment, people I was dating at that time, I mean the nights that he could put somebody in my apartment, like people in that building seeing me, that he's claiming were tricks, were people I was dating.

OW: What is the age range of your dates?

KK: Twenty-eight, 25, I live on a fifth floor walkup. If I was working, they probably couldn't climb that many stairs. Most of them could afford to go to a decent hotel room, too.

OW: Have you ever been tempted to go back to hustling?

KK: Tempted, yeah.

OW: Did you ever go to Rounds?

KK: I went into Rounds when I first came here, nothing happened, I was just interested in checking out the gay bars. At that point I didn't know it was a hustler bar. The minute I walked in, I realized.

OW: Did you ever talk to Father Ritter about sex?

KK: He said "Twenty years ago I decided that if God didn't like me the way I am and by what I do, that was his problem, not mine." That was probably all he ever said on the subject.

OW: I'm assuming that you're gay...

KK: Yes, happily so.

OW: Did you ever goad him to make more statements like that?

KK: I'd just say things implying that he was hypocritical about some of his stands.

OW: Such as?

KK: Condoms.

OW: You mean the fact that Covenant House doesn't allow its counselors to give out condoms?

KK: Exactly.

OW: What would his reaction be?

KK: Well, the Catholic Church. It would not be Bruce Ritter talking. It would always be the Catholic Church. He always pulled himself out of the picture.

OW: Did he use condoms?

KK: No.

OW: Was it just blowjobs and mutual masturbations?

KK: Yes.

OW: Would he go down on you without a condom?

KK: Right.

OW: Do you think he was committing a crime?

KK: I was of age of consent. I think it was an abuse of trust. Everybody calls it sexual misconduct. I think that's probably the best term I could fit to it. From what I understand he's always very careful that they are of the age of consent.

OW: When you talked with him about things in general, did he ever talk about the problems of gay kids? Did he ever seem to show any compassion or interest in them?

KK: I think he did have true compassion for the people on the special needs floor that they have there, that houses people with AIDS. I truly think he did. It's hard to say. He has two very different faces, a very public face and a very private face. But I would say definitely the people who are HIV positive, people on that floor, that he did feel definite compassion for.

OW: How did your relationship develop with him? Would you say that you ever became emotionally close to him, intimate?

KK: In a strange way I did become, in the beginning, kind of attached to this person who had taken me

in. But then I thought, this is bullshit. It's like, I'm believing his own PR.

OW: Do you like him?

KK: On one hand, yes. I like the things that he's done in that area. He definitely has filled a gap that nobody else has filled. We can sit here all day and say, yes he's done it poorly, yes he's done it great. I mean, he did it, and it is good. On the other hand, to do the things he does, I'd have no problem with him at all had he paid for my services as a client with his own money, while I was still working. I would have never told his name. I will never tell a client's name. Never. I would never have had a problem with that. But to run your own private little place to pick from...

OW: Were you guys open about your relationship? You said you went to parties. How many other people knew about your relationship?

KK: I don't think anybody really knew. They knew he had a special interest in me. It may have crossed some people's minds.

OW: Other people at Covenant House knew he had a special interest in you?

KK: Everyone knew.

OW: Did anyone else at Covenant House ever say anything to you?

KK: One person finally did. I can't really give you her name.

I've heard all the giddy jokes already on the news and radio shows. Funny, I don't think I look like Jessica Hahn.

OW: What did she say?

KK: I can't say anything on that subject, because she is still in Covenant House. You've got to understand, he has a totalitarian rule. These people are true followers of this man. In a sense they're employees, but they're also followers of this great man. Oh they all knew who I was. I came by during office hours. Sure. They knew we spent a lot of time together. They certainly never said it to me, or implied it to me. Nobody ever gave me a situation where I could say, I got the feeling this is somebody I can tell what's going on and they'll believe me. I never got that feeling from anybody. I know there are other gay employees of Covenant House.

OW: Priests?

KK: No, not that I'm aware of. Covenant House does employ gay people in prominent positions there.

OW: Openly gay?

KK: Outside of work, openly.

OW: Outside of work, but not at work.

KK: Rumors, yes. Inside, no.

OW: Do you know who?

KK: Yes.

OW: Will you tell us?

KK: No. Nobody should be forced out of the closet. If they want to tell, that's their thing to tell.

OW: Did you know that Ritter played a prominent role in trying to prevent New York from passing the gay rights bill?

KK: Not until I read it in *Newsweek*.

OW: Did you ever talk about gay politics?

KK: No. He didn't like me dating other people, I know that. He would express those things to me. If he found out I was dating somebody, he'd put a stop to it.

OW: How would he put a stop to it?

KK: Tell me to stop seeing them.

OW: And then you would?

KK: Yes.

OW: Did you ever try to negotiate safer sex with him? Did you ever say, we have to use condoms?

KK: No. He would occasionally ask me if I had safe sex, and I said yes. And he asked me if I'd ever been tested for AIDS, and I said yes. He said what were the results, and I said negative. Questions like that.

OW: Does the DA know you're here at *OurWeek*?

KK: No.

OW: Are they going to be pissed off when they find out?

KK: Extremely.

OW: Did the DA tell you not to talk to the media?

KK: Yeah. I'm in hiding right now.

OW: Why did you decide to talk?

KK: 'Cause I was tired of taking a bashing from everyone, half truths and everything else being published.

OW: Have you been taking a bashing?

KK: I think I've been. Have you not read? I think I've been taking pretty much of a bashing in the press.

OW: You mean in the sense that people are doubting your story?

KK: Oh, just the things that are coming out of Covenant House,

the things they're saying. They have control of such...a press conference he called, 100 reporters from seven countries.

OW: It's a big story.

KK: Evidently.

OW: Are you prepared for the media whirlwind?

KK: I've already had somewhat of a media whirlwind, but, no. I've been offered some great deals on stories.

OW: People offered you money for stories? Did the *Post* give you money?

KK: No.

OW: Who offered you money?

KK: Different magazines have made it known that they would pay.

OW: Why did you decide to come to *OurWeek*?

KK: 'Cause I like *OurWeek* and I thought it was very unfair that no gay publication had the resources to cover this story. At least from what I'd heard, they didn't have the manpower to go out and cover and investigate. I thought that was very unfair that every straight newspaper in town had this story, investigating like wildfire, yet no gay publication was able to cover it. I thought that was extremely unfair.

OW: Did you follow this past summer the Barney Frank/Stephen Gobie story in Washington? You saw how Stephen Gobie got treated in the newspapers, on *Geraldo*?

KK: But I also consider that a totally different thing. I feel sorry for Barney Frank in that situation totally. I'm not going to criticize anybody. It was Gobie's decision to make.

OW: Do you think that people may, however, see you in somewhat the same light, as someone who's bringing down someone big?

KK: Yes.

OW: What do you think is the essential difference between the Barney Frank story and the Bruce Ritter story?

KK: There was no misuse of trust [in the Barney Frank case]. Everybody knew going in what the rules were. He was hiring...like I said, you hire me, I'll never release a client's name. Nor will I any of the people I've slept with that were clients. I think that's wrong. In my mind you don't do that. It's like talking to your psychiatrist...

OW: Or your priest.

KK: Touché. It's a confidentiality that you don't break, and have no reason to. I could have sold other stories. This is not the only influential person I've slept with. So I consider that a totally different cast. But yes, I realize...I've heard all the giddy jokes already on the news and radio shows. Funny, I don't think I look like Jessica Hahn.

OW: Did you like sleeping with him?

KK: No. It's a business transaction.

OW: It's a job, not an adventure?

KK: Right. Enjoy, not to enjoy. Sometimes you do, sometimes it's just work.

OW: Was sex ever more intimate than what you described, than mutual masturbation and a blowjob occasionally?

KK: No. Never more than that.

OW: Did he ever spend the night afterwards?

KK: It was always at his apartment, I never spent the night there, but when we were away, those were overnight trips.

OW: What are you living on?

KK: I live on a \$15 witness fee and that's it. Quite a cut in salary.

OW: What are your plans?

KK: To go back to school. I plan to hold Manhattan College to their scholarship. Hopefully I can force them to honor the scholarship they gave me. If they don't I'll find a city college that I can go to.

OW: You're going to stay in New York?

KK: I think so. I like New York. I enjoy it.

OW: Do you have friends here?

KK: Some, yes. Some don't speak to me anymore. Nobody really wants to be that close to me right now. Some people are not out of the closet, to their parents, things like that. If they were ever caught with me...I have been followed, tracked by photographers. I've found them in trashcans outside, bizarre places.

OW: Did somebody follow you here?

KK: Who knows?

OW: What about your family? Why'd you leave home?

KK: My parents are very fundamentalist people, religious. I'll say one thing, they weren't hypocrites. They believed in their religion totally. They didn't drink. They didn't dance. They didn't smoke. They didn't curse, which was fine. If you're going to live that kind of lifestyle, definitely go with your own convictions. I smoked, drank, danced and was gay. So it was pretty much four strikes.

OW: You said they weren't hypocrites. Are you implying Bruce Ritter is?

KK: Oh, definitely.

OW: Does he preach one thing and do another?

KK: Exactly.

OW: What did you think of the demonstration at St Patrick's Cathedral?

KK: I wish I could have been there.

OW: Inside or out?

KK: Outside. My personal opinion is that everyone has the right to demonstrate. Abortion, I believe it's a person's right to choose. I believe everybody has the right to demonstrate. But those people inside, I felt, did inhibit people from their right to religious services. I had no problem with them getting arrested outside on the street, causing all the problems they wanted to, but where my rights begin, your rights stop. That's just my personal opinion, for what it's worth, which is nothing.

OW: How do you think Father Bruce felt about it?

KK: I think he had a lot of other problems to think about. I don't think his mind was too in tune.

OW: Why did you wait so long?

KK: I didn't know who to tell. I've got the Bush's coming one day, Reagan coming the next, to Covenant House. I mean the man's political clout is unreal. Who do you tell that you know is not gonna pick up the phone and say, "Bruce Ritter's office, please?"

OW: This is not going to play for the gay community in a particu-

larly pretty way. What the mainstream media is mainly interested in is confirming that homosexuals are child molesters, or that gay people shouldn't work with children.

KK: I realize there's a little paradox, and I'm sorry I've caused...I don't think I've caused that. I think he should have thought of that before he did it.

OW: But he's not exactly concerned about the gay community.

KK: That's true. I'm not gonna look at it as my fault. I'm certainly not gonna put the weight of that on my shoulders, what somebody yelled at me the other day, what do I feel like about all these poor people that are gonna be unemployed from Covenant House. I can worry about me right now, that's about it. I know that sounds selfish, but I've gotta look out for me.



"I DON'T FEEL VENGEFUL. NO MORE."—Kite at *OutWeek's* offices.

Photo: T.L. Litt

OW: How did you feel when you realized what was going on, that he wasn't bringing you up to New York for...

KK: I should have known better. Betrayed.

OW: What did you think he wanted to bring you up here for?

KK: A college education, put me in Rites of Passage, get my whole life straightened out, counselling.

OW: If you could tell him something now, face to face, what would it be?

KK: I have nothing to say to him. Not until I go to court. I think I'll have plenty to say there. I don't feel vengeful. No more.

OW: Ritter says that he thinks you've been "prodded by gay activists eager to embarrass their adversary, the Roman Catholic Church". Do you have any connections with gay organizations?

KK: Darn, I can't come up with one. No.

OW: No secret ACT UP meetings in your history?

KK: No. No. I think they've changed. It used to be the mob that put me up to it. Then I think it was the Post who put me up to it. And then it was the DA who wanted him. And now it's militants.

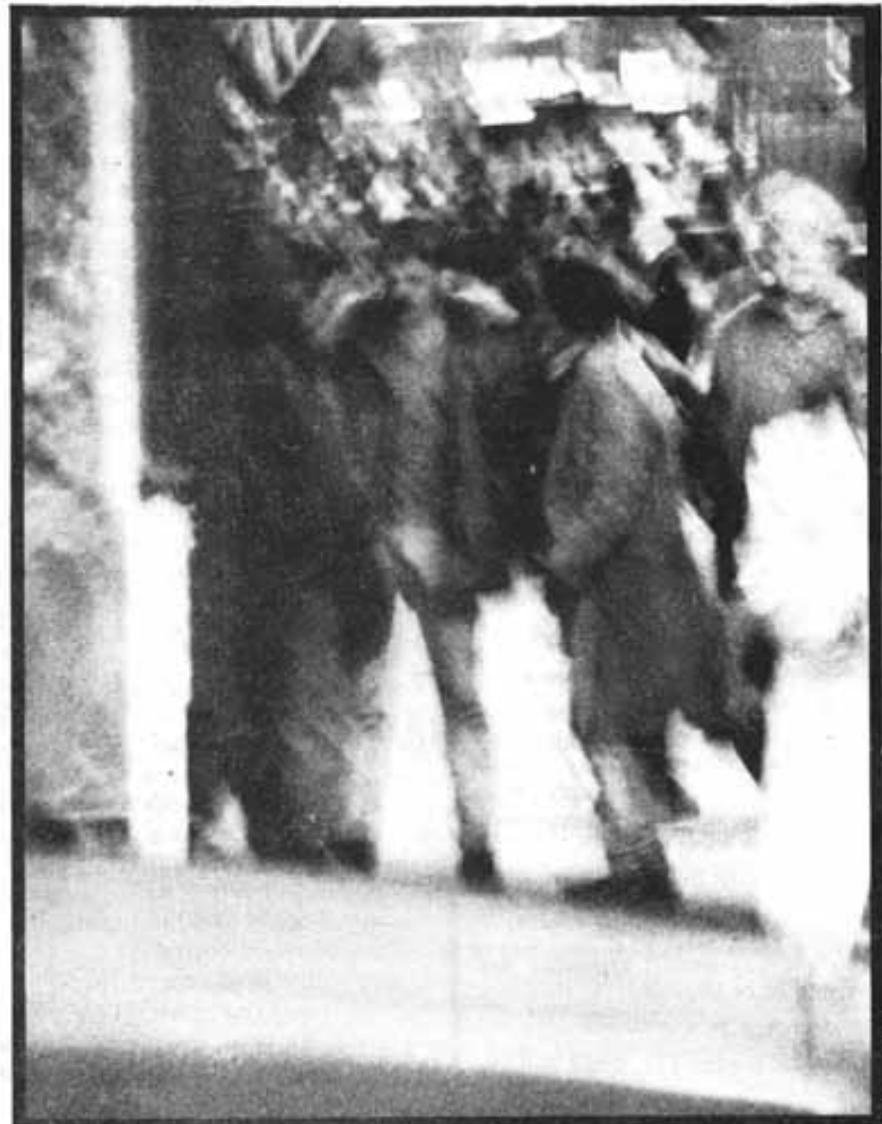
OW: "Militant homosexuals who hate the church."

KK: Next week we'll find out who else put me up to it after that story didn't work. I think he's nailed himself. ▼

Street Smart

Health Outreach to Teenagers Offers Free Medical Attention and Safer Sex Information

by Mark Chesnut



It has been estimated that over 15,000 adolescents are currently living on the streets of New York City. It's also estimated that 1,500 of those adolescents are gay or lesbian. While it's tough enough to be homeless, it's even worse for the young lesbians and gays who have been kicked out by their families and are forced to hustle on the streets in order to survive, in a dangerous and often homophobic environment. These youths are in desperate need of basics including a home. And adequate health care is essential to this often-forgotten segment of the lesbian and gay population. They are at high risk for HIV infection, as well as being frequent victims of physical and sexual abuse and drug addiction. These teenagers have been accustomed to unsympathetic medical attention, if any at all. But there is a familiar van that parks three nights a week near the streets where they live

and work, offering many gay and lesbian street youth an opportunity to receive non-judgmental medical attention, through a free medical outreach called Health Outreach To Teenagers (HOTT).

HOTT was initiated about a year ago by the Community Health Project (CHP), and is run by full-time staffers Barry Davidson and Richard Haymes. It is currently the only medical outreach program for lesbian and gay youth that goes out onto the streets.

CHP, a non-profit lesbian and gay health organization, had long recognized the medical needs of lesbian and gay street youth, but it has taken time to develop the program to its present form. The organization first attempted to serve these adolescents through an outreach program in their facility at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center over a year ago. But they soon realized

Photo: Michael Wakefield

that these youths were not comfortable making a trek so deep into the adult gay and lesbian community. "They have histories of physical, sexual and emotional abuse from adults," says Haymes, pointing out that many of the people who exploit them on the streets are older gay men. "They don't have a very good view of what the gay community is, so it's understandable." The youth did not have the coping mechanisms to deal with the clinic setting, and those who did come in would often leave if they had to wait for more than 15 minutes.

To make health care more accessible and to build trust with the youth, it became clear that the program would have to meet them on their territory and on their terms. Davidson says that's where medical outreach programs have failed in the past. "Most programs expect these kids to come into them between nine to five hours. Well, the kids that we're dealing with have bought into our bureaucracy. These kids are hustling and they're on crack and we've got to get them when it's convenient for them."

And so the HOTT van began rolling, with Barry Davidson and Dr. Rick O'Keefe venturing out to the areas most frequented by street youths and hustlers: the West Side piers, 53rd Street and 3rd Avenue and Times Square. And they began to see what life is like for the thousands of lesbian and gay teenagers who call the streets their home.

Davidson was surprised to find that most of the kids were not the stereotyped runaways from middle America, although they do represent a wide variety of backgrounds: "A lot of them are local kids. These are not kids who are running away from another state to be here. The majority are local. They come from assorted backgrounds. I know one kid whose father was a heart surgeon. Some of them come from backgrounds of sexual molestation and physical abuse. Their parents are probably as bad off as they are. It blows my mind how parents can just throw away kids."

As a result of being thrown onto the street, the adolescents take up prostitution as a means of survival and often fall into a vicious cycle of crack addiction, according to Davidson. Many of them are women and some of them are transsexual or crossdressers. Some of the male hustlers do not even identify them-

selves as gay, but are gay on the street because "that's what it takes, because that's what their trade requires," Davidson continues. But their trade does not provide a comfortable lifestyle for most of these youth, with many living on the subways or in what they call "no-frills" housing—abandoned buildings.

It is in this atmosphere that HOTT attempts to administer accessible and non-judgmental health care. HOTT works closely with the Hetrick-Martin Institute, an organization that provides outreach to lesbian and gay youth. When the HOTT van is out in a neighborhood, Hetrick-Martin outreach workers on the street steer teenagers to the location for treatment or for medical counseling.

Safer sex education is an obvious part of their outreach. "They are probably more aware of AIDS and safe sex condom use than the average heterosexual," says Davidson. "They all tell me they use condoms." But he said the problem comes when a john offers more money if a condom is not used. Some hustlers will accept that offer.

Another danger arises when the hustler is on his or her own time. Many of the adolescents have boyfriends with whom they do not practice safer sex. "There's a difference between having sex and making love in their mind," according to Davidson. "Having sex is something you do to make a living. When you make love, it's with someone you want to be with. The sad part about it is when they have sex, they'll use a condom. When they make love, they don't think it's necessary."

This is one area HOTT hopes to address more effectively through their outreach. Plans are underway for phase III of HOTT's development: They are awaiting delivery this summer of a 34 foot van, complete with HOTT's hip new logo, that will be equipped with a medical exam room, a screening room/laboratory, a counseling room, bathroom with shower and a waiting room. They are also looking forward to expanding their outreach staff on the van to include a physician, nurse, social worker/health educator and driver. HOTT will then be capable of providing STD and Hepatitis B screening, as well as full AIDS assessments and a variety of general medical needs.

But there are difficult factors to consider when expanding the staff, accord-

ing to Haymes: "It's very hard screening for volunteers to work with adolescents. As much as we don't want to feed into the image of gay people as pederasts, we also can't ignore that there may be some people who want to volunteer for this because of that specifically. The screenings are going to be very rough. They'll go through the central registry, fingerprinting and psychological tests."

Haymes, who is administrator of the program, would also like to smooth the way for youths to be referred to Bellevue and St. Vincent's Hospitals for addi-

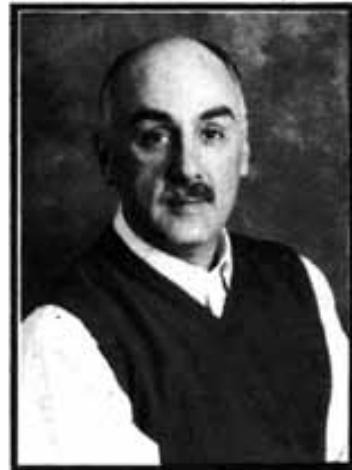


Photo: Bill Bytsura

"A BAND-AID"
Barry Davidson

tional treatment. But he said the hospital staff needs to be better educated about the kids so they can understand them and provide more appropriate treatment.

"What we're doing is only a band-aid," says Davidson, "but it's more than they've got. And it's more than anyone else is going to give them. Eventually, my ultimate goal would be for some kid to say, 'Can you get me off the street? Can you get me off crack? Can you make me a real life?' I would love to see that."

How do the kids respond to the outreach? "You never know," Davidson continues. "One of the ways I know I've accomplished something, or that they appreciate it, is if they show up the next week, or if two weeks later they come back just to see what's happening. And every once in a while somebody will say 'thanks.' ▼

Health Outreach to Teenagers is always in need of funds. Donations may be sent to Community Health Project, earmarked for HOTT to: CHP, 208 West 13th St., New York, New York 10011.

Volunteers who would like to be buddies should call HOTT at (212) 255-1675.

LOOKOUT



Someone we know got this cheery holiday card from John Cardinal O'Connor, albeit very late. But there is an explanation. According to Page Six at the *New York Post* "there was a delay this year at the Archdiocese in getting Cardinal O'Connor's Christmas cards in the mail...because the card features a photo of St. Patrick's Cathedral with the muscular art deco backside of Atlas holding up the world, prominently featured in the foreground, and it apparently showed too much of his crack, said a source. So at the last minute [O'Connor had to have] it airbrushed."

Moral of this story:

It takes an ass to censor one.

—M.S.



Photo: T. L. Litt

We just fell in love with Three Queens Fashions the minute we spotted it on 8th Street near 6th Ave. (Though owner Noaman Abdulahad was quite perplexed by our amusement and interest when *OutWeek's* roving photographer T.L. Litt began snapping pics outside the boutique.)

—M.S.



OUT OF MY HANDS

BY BRADLEY BALL

only hope is to retain the services of a good criminal lawyer who might be able to get you off on some technicality. Good luck—you'll need it!

Dear Brad:

This argument has been raging out of control for the past couple of weeks and may come to violence if something isn't done immediately. I say that as of January 1st we are now in the 90s. My stupid friend, Gerard, on the other hand, claims that the decade doesn't officially start until 1991 just like the 21st century doesn't begin until the year 2001. Of course he's as wrong about this as he was in last year's Oscar predictions but he refuses to back down. (To give you some idea exactly how stubborn Gerard is, let me just tell you that he's still going around saying Glenn Close won Best Actress for *Dangerous*

Liaisons.) Since you know absolutely everything, could you resolve this issue once and for all?

—Damn Right

Dear Right:

Personally, I can't for the life of me imagine why anybody would care to cling to a period as rotten as the 80s. Any decade that could start with such a miserable Christmas and end with such a pathetic New Year's Eve and give us such loathsome terms as "work space" is best put behind us. In the spirit of fairness, however, (which is, as you well know, the essence of this column) and for the sake of saving an obviously worthwhile friendship, let's try this out: to say that these are the 90s is *not* the same as saying that this is the last, or tenth, decade of the 20th century. The former involves the use of cardinal numbers and the

latter uses ordinal numbering. Therefore, while one may safely assert that "The 90s" is a set comprised of those years from 1990 to 1999, it is equally true that the decade (which, like the century, dates from an assumptive Year One A.D.) does not begin until 1991. So you see, you and Gerard are both right and can quit arguing for a while—at least until the 1989 Academy Award nominations are announced. (Tip: the smart money is still on Vanessa Redgrave for *Patty Hearst*.)

Confidential to Concerned:

First of all, permit me to suggest that if the taste bothers you so much, maybe you should consider swallowing the tablet whole rather than chewing it. As to your question, though, put your mind at ease. My experts assure me that it's quite impossible to get drunk from mixing Bactrim and Sprite. They did, of course, caution against mixing Xanax with Beefeater but, for some reason, they're always telling me that no matter what the question is. Just between you, me and the fence post, I'm beginning to think their recently acquired status as experts has given them a distinctly unpleasant attitude of superiority. I don't suppose they'd be nearly so cocky if certain documents in my possession were to be brought to light (for example, a report from the house detective at the Chateau Frontenac) but, then, the publication of privileged communications for the mere purpose of character assassination is the sort of action which must be eschewed if respect and credibility are to be maintained. Besides, experts are not indispensable. New ones turn up practically every day and most of them are willing to work for substantially reduced fees, if you know what I mean. ▼

How to Make an Irish-American Faggot Scream

(#4 in an occasional series exploring our ethnic diversity)

- Ask him if he's a cop.
- Ask him if he's a fireman.
- Tell him how much he looks like Cardinal O'Connor.
- Ask him if he's seen his "mither" lately.
- Congratulate him for not being a terrorist.
- Offer him whiskey at 10 am when everyone else is having coffee.
- Ask him to sing "Danny Boy."
- Ask him if he's ever seen a leprechaun.
- Ask him if he is a leprechaun.
- Express surprise that he only has four siblings.
- Invite him to dinner and serve three kinds of potatoes.

—Mike Neville



By Michelangelo Signorile

In a city with so many publications, arts critics are almost equal in number to the rats running around in the sewers. Only in New York do so many people get paid so much money to pass so much gas. But sadly, most of them are the pits, especially when it comes to lesbian and gay issues. It seems that critics—many of whom are queer themselves—feel that there's a time and a place for fags and dykes. If a production involving homosexuality isn't deemed "tasteful" and/or "hip" for the viewing of the average hetero-yup down at Dean and DeLuca's, then it's just not worth its weight in fresh spinach pasta. Plain and simple, many art critics are homophobic. And in many cases these critics are self-loathing; the kind of queers who say things like: "We shouldn't always flaunt ourselves and our lifestyles in front of people."

It's therefore significant when we find one or two critics at the dailies who do try to bring some semblance of reality to what they do. David Bianculli (*New York Post*) and John J. O'Connor (*New York Times*) are perhaps the most enlightened and gay-sensitive of the critics at the major city dailies in New York. Ironically, but most importantly, both critique the barren wasteland of homophobia we call television. Bianculli has consistently exposed myths and pointed out misinformation in a clear and straightforward manner. O'Connor's analyses are thought-provoking and impressive, often focusing readers' attention on the more subtle forms of queer-bashing that spew from the tube.

I write about them in light of last

week's dreadful, but somewhat revolutionary telefilm, *Rock Hudson*. The movie was garbage in terms of quality and yet it was important for America to see that kind of garbage—in which two people of the same sex are touching—since most of the time they're only seeing heterosexual garbage. Of course, in not one scene did two men kiss, and the only homoerotic dialogue was an unintentional line when Rock, trying to explain his homosexuality to his wife, says, "It's as if there's a hole inside of me. It needs to be filled."

I'll say.

In his critique, the very confused TV reviewer Marvin Kitman (*New York Newsday*) seemed like a child discovering something new about himself: "Two guys smoking in bed. You know what that means. There are hugging scenes and metaphorical swimming in the pool scenes and scenes of men opening each other's shirts. It's all done in good taste, whatever that

convey the decidedly questionable impression that all homosexuals are model-perfect types with magnificently toned muscles. Stereotypes are notoriously persistent."

And Bianculli discusses the film's cowardice: "How, given Hudson's long-rumored promiscuity, could ABC dramatize a 'behind-the-scenes' story of Hudson's gay encounters? The answer is, with lots of fades, jump cuts, close-ups of hand touching, and, whenever the going gets tough, a longing gaze and a bear hug. That's bear, not bare."

This is all in sharp contrast to Fran Wood (*Daily News*), who not only doesn't share Bianculli's view that there just wasn't enough skin and raw energy, but also seems to feel that there is absolutely no place for gays on television; a point she goes out of her way to articulate in her review, headlined, THE WORST SORT OF SLEAZE.

"Why resurrect all the sordid details of Hudson's sex life?" she asks. "If you insist on watching this piece of trash (and not even well-done trash, at that), pack the kids off to bed first. It contains scenes which will make you cringe with embarrassment, and its attempts at portraying sexual play between adult males are both sophomoric and distasteful."

Fuck you, Fran! What happened, huh, Fran? Did the film burst your bubble? Huh? Did it bring in some TRUTH ABOUT YOUR FAMOUS MOVIE IDOL? Yeah, I can see you covering your ears as I say this. WELL, HERE WE ARE, FRAN BABY! AND ROCK WAS ONE OF US! AND SO IS ONE OF HIS FAMOUS LEADING LADIES! AND SO WAS THAT GLITZY PIANIST! AND SO ARE SOME PRIESTS! AND SO ARE GOSSIP COLUMNISTS. YES, IT COULD BE PEOPLE AT YOUR OWN NEWSPAPER, FRAN!!!

Oh my God!

And no, don't pack the kids off to bed. LET 'EM SEE US. Let 'em get a glimpse of reality, 'cause, see, some of them could actually be some of us.

See GOSSIP WATCH on page 65

GOSSIP ZAP! 212-210-1589 ZAP FRAN!

means...I am of two minds about movies like this...Is nothing sacred?...I have the feeling *Rock Hudson* is an important TV movie, a watershed." It's almost as if you're seeing him writhe while you read the review. And, of course, in the end it's impossible to make out what he means about anything. He, in fact, desperately seems not to want us to know.

But both O'Connor and Bianculli are not only unafraid to tackle the issues, they're also not content or satisfied merely because television decided to portray gays. "Perhaps inevitably, the film treads carefully, almost solemnly, stumbling into unavoidable distortions," writes O'Connor. "The more daring scenes of Mr. Hudson's all male pool parties

The Native Masthead: Where Are They Now?

By Michelangelo Signorile

While many of our contributors here at OutWeek keep trying to figure out what the requirements are to get on our ever-changing masthead, many are trying to figure out how to get off the Native's never-changing one. After an intense investigation that took us from the streets of San Francisco to the beaches at Cherry Grove, we have uncovered the fact that the vast majority of writers listed on The Native masthead not only haven't written for the publication in quite some time, but have screamed, yelled, ranted and raved to no avail in attempts to disassociate themselves from the strange and eerie world of Charles Ortleb. Of course, where there are detractors there are also supporters, but these are few and far between. Here is just a small sampling of the shocking results of our investigation.

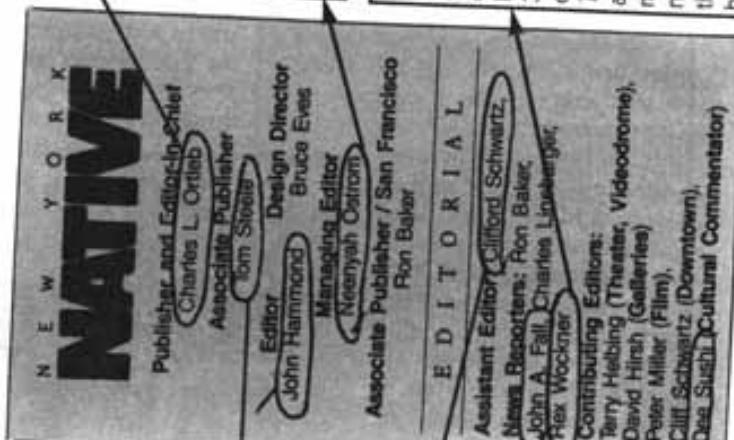
Has stuck with Ortleb through thick and thin; still there with him, both flapping in the mud like two fish who've just had all the pond water sucked away from them. A busy little thing, Steele has even recorded an album—with Chuck—and has a full-fledged singing career which, need we say, is as illustrious as his journalism career.

Still at Native. Writes mostly everything. Does whatever he's told. Can be found creeping around ACT UP meetings looking for something nasty to publish about the group's finances.

Was once staff writer for Native. Hasn't written for paper in four years. Now lives in LA, as social worker to people with AIDS and as a media coordinator for ACT UP/LA. "You should have called me three years ago! Not only do paychecks bounce, but so do expense checks! A lot of really talented people got hurt. Ortleb's a maniac. I felt safer in the 42nd Street subway than I did going into that office."

Still owns and operates the paper, of course. Now spends his time feverishly digging through ten-year-old copies of the rag so that he can tell the seven current readers how wonderful the paper used to be (on a page called "Native Yesterday").

A frightening man who has been called everything from a lunatic to a murderer; we hear that when Good old Chuck gets mad, especially about nasty things written about him, he orders the entire staff to stuff and lick envelopes. (Certainly they'll be some sore tongues over at The Native today.)



Just when your gay paper is being perceived as being too far out, what do you do? Hire a heterosexual—yes, HETEROSEXUAL—woman as managing editor and have her write incessantly about chronic fatigue syndrome and even, once in a while, lesbianism.

Stopped writing for Native a year ago. Now national correspondent for OutWeek and syndicated reporter for lesbian and gay newspapers in 35 U.S. cities and five foreign countries. "I'm lucky in that The Native does not owe me any money any longer. A former Native business manager named Chris Schilling is to thank for that. But now I've heard he's in prison."

Stupid name for associate publisher Tom Steele.

Consulting Editor: Michael Denney

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David Andrus, **Clay Blotcher**,

Christopher Bram, Alfred Corn,

Quentin Crisp, Tish Dace,

Amy L. Eddings, Bruce-Michael Gelbert,

Kevin Grubb, Mark Halleck, David Hirsh,

Drew Hopkins, P.J., Damien Jack,

Thomas J. Jackson, Lynn Jacobson,

Denise Katz, **Arthur Lazere**,

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Peter Miller, Terry Miller, Mingus,

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A R T

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Three years ago wrote a column for Native called "East Village Eye." Is now a travel writer, author. "Getting money from them is like pulling teeth. But I got it because, see, I'm a Scorpio so I get what I want. Other less intrepid individuals let the \$25 checks just fade into the distance."

is copy editor at Spin: "Actually, I'm working on a story for The Native right now. Chuck is a friend...er...but, wait, don't write that [laughs]."

Name used to hide the real identity of sleazy, venture capitalist and real estate queen Leonard Goldstein.

Hasn't written for Native for quite some time. Now lives in L.A. and writes for L.A. Weekly and Los Angeles Times.

Has not done work for Native for about three years. "Really? I didn't even know my name was still on there? I really don't have a bone to pick with them. We traded photos for advertising space and my ads ran for a long time."

Hasn't written for Native quite some time. Has contributed to OutWeek.

Used to be theater critic at Native. Is now contributor to OutWeek.

Staff writer at Native, 1982-1984. Now media coordinator for ACT UP/NY. "After they began printing a column by right-wing sugar daddy Leonard Goldstein, and then printed those maniacal dolphin conspiracy theories about AIDS, the paper became a cross between The National Review and The National Enquirer."

Freelance photographer with Impact Visuals. Hasn't contributed any photos to Native in over two years. "Gee, I didn't even know I was still on [the masthead]. I haven't looked at them in so long. It's funny, a lot of people have tried to get off and they can't. It's interesting that [The Native] now wants to keep all of these people on the masthead when they never treated them very well in the past. They didn't respect anybody. They used people. I know they owe a lot of people money."

Photographer. Hasn't contributed a photo to Native for two years. Now contributes regularly for OutWeek. "I want my name off that masthead! I have demanded it over and over and over. They don't represent the gay community and never, ever represented the lesbian community. It's a joke that they have this list of people who they say work for them who don't actually work for them. As far as I'm concerned, they don't exist!"

"hot tub" establishments favored by straight Hoosiers go unmolested.

The ACLU's Stevens recounted a recent raid on the gay Club Baths in Indianapolis, reportedly for handing out large towels or sheets to patrons. The sheets or towels were allegedly used to cover the glass doors that the Club Baths had been required to install. Yet straight establishments nearby which were required by law to install similar glass doors have never done so and are not raided, Stevens alleges.

While Robinson confirms that Dr. Myers made public statements about closing gay businesses, "he never actively attempted to do so," Robinson says. Nevertheless, he agrees that Myers "singles out gay baths as opposed to straight establishments."

Lack of AIDS Funding

A major complaint against Myers' personal job performance as health commissioner concerns his alleged indifference towards obtaining AIDS funding from the state legislature, and his unwillingness to press for the release of CDC funds already allocated.

Indiana's per-patient allocation for AIDS is one of the lowest in the nation, a situation widely blamed on Myers. Jack Ryan, the head of the AIDS Task Force in Fort Wayne, flatly stated, "Dr. Myers simply doesn't attempt to put state money into AIDS at all. He should, but he doesn't. As a result," Ryan continued, "no state money is being spent to care for anybody with AIDS in Indiana. Period."

Among more than a dozen AIDS workers contacted by *OutWeek* throughout the state, not one could recall a single instance in which Myers had attempted to persuade the legislature to allocate funds for AIDS.

And the ACLU's Stevens contended that individual legislators had even attempted to secure funding on their own but they were stymied by Myers' refusal to provide necessary statistics to back up funding requests. Without such statistics, which could only come from the board of health, the lawmakers were unable to draw up funding legislation.

More frustrating for AIDS workers, however, is his reported unwillingness

to pry loose from the state budget office funds already allocated for AIDS programs by the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta. Much of the funding for AIDS programs in Indiana comes from the CDC, which funnels its allocations through the State Budget Office. The Damien Center's director Shuff remembers a typical incident in which the Board of Health had approved a grant for an AIDS program using CDC money.

"The contract languished in the State Budget Office for almost a year," Shuff recalls, "and no one from Myers' office ever tried to get it out of limbo. We finally had to exert considerable pressure directly on the governor's office to get the money released. We never got anywhere with Myers so we just bypassed him."

OutWeek obtained an August, 1989 letter from CDC Project Officer David Forney to Myers citing "extensive delays" in the releasing of CDC-allocated funds for Indiana AIDS programs. The letter notes the "frustration" of state AIDS workers over funding delays and concludes, "Many of these observations have been made in previous site visits...Written plans to correct these deficiencies have been submitted [by the CDC] in the past; however, there is no indication that proper corrective action has been implemented."

Myers' defenders say that such bureaucratic snafus are not the fault of the commissioner. Yet AIDS workers note that Jeff Richardson, the acting commissioner for the Department of Human Services, has had no such problems with his department's allocations.

Shuff also recalls that Richardson was having a similar problem with CDC funds in the state budget office. "Richardson just went right up there and hand-walked the papers through," Shuff recounts. "He got the funds released right away, and Myers could do that too, anytime he wants. He just doesn't."

And an Indiana public health official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told *OutWeek*, "Indiana's AIDS programs have lost literally hundreds of thousands of dollars because they weren't expended, even though they were allocated by the CDC. Myers' inaction on this issue is unconscionable. It's literally costing lives."

No Dice on Safer Sex

State AIDS workers also charge Myers with attitudes ranging from indifference to hostility toward safer sex education, despite its being one of the Board of Health's primary functions. Publisher Stanley Berg recounts, "Gays in Indiana made a real effort to enlist Dr. Myers to help with safer sex education. We went to him. We really pleaded. He said he had no interest, no interest at all. For that reason we've always assumed that Myers can't stand gays."

But Dierdre Barrett, who works for Myers as the director of the state's HIV/AIDS Program, has a different perspective. She says it is "extremely unlikely" that Myers is openly homophobic, but concedes that "he's been heavily criticized for his stand on safer sex education for gays." She contends that "people criticize Dr. Myers, but it's because of a lack of communication."

Others disagree. Michael Shuff said, "There isn't really any lack of communication. There simply have been absolutely no initiatives from Dr. Myers for gay related safer sex education. The best I can say is that when other people come up with programs he doesn't go out of his way to oppose them. But then, he doesn't really fund them either."

Nursing Homes Blocked

According to critics, Myers has routinely opposed the conversion of nursing homes into AIDS-specific nursing homes or hospices. The case most often cited is a recent request by the Clover Leaf Nursing Home of Indianapolis to convert one of its facilities, a 39-bed veterans nursing home, to an AIDS nursing home.

According to Shuff, Myers maintains that the Marion County area was already overbuilt for nursing home beds. "Medicaid turned down Clover Leaf's application for conversion based on Woody's statement that such a home was unnecessary in Indiana," Marla Stevens of the ACLU told *OutWeek*. Yet AIDS workers in Indiana strenuously dispute that the admitted overabundance of nursing home beds is relevant to AIDS patients.

"We just recently had an AIDS patient who was turned down by 27 nursing homes in this area," Damien

See MYERS on page 65

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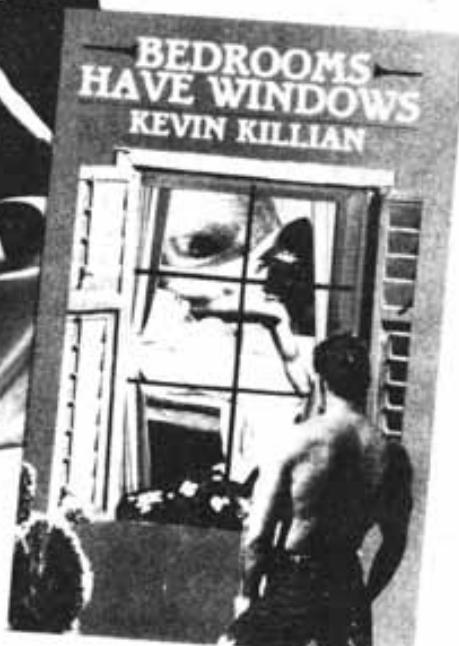
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The Het Bet

The War of the Roses. Directed by Danny DeVito. Produced by James L. Brooks and Arnon Milchan. 20th Century Fox.

by Bruce C. Steele

The *War of the Roses* gets all its black-comic energy from a fusion of materialism, sexuality and absurdist violence. Oliver and Barbara Rose are so obsessed with conspicuous consumption that it has drained their souls, and when Barbara insists on a divorce, the couple's one-time eroticism mutates into a barbaric territorialism. There's quite a kick inherent in watching the wealthy self-destruct, although the movie takes simple

piling possessions—crystal glassware, a British sportscar, their museum-like house and, of course, children—they come to fret over the quality of the star on top of their Christmas tree. When they're young, tinfoil isn't good enough, and when Barbara tries to recapture a simpler time by bringing out the foil star years later, the whole tree ends up in flames.

The movie doesn't take sides. Domestic violence may be intrinsically patriarchal and misogynistic, but at least this woman is always one step ahead of her husband. (My lover and I spent the subway ride home arguing whether Oliver or Barbara was more at fault. I said he was; he said she was.) Each is equally aggressive and vicious in defense of precious property, and the violence, though farcical, has a hard edge to it, because Oliver and Barbara actually bleed and bruise. The casting couldn't be better: both stars have an undercurrent of vulnerability, yet there's no foxier, more formidable screen vixen than Kathleen Turner, no better embodiment of self-deluding greed and innate sexism than Michael Douglas.

Like any good, dark comedy, *The War of the Roses* achieves most of its humor by exposing familiar, often anti-social feelings: those fleeting moments when we'd like to "smash in" our lover's face, or when we imagine what we'd say to that one special person if we suddenly thought we were dying. And what if the likelihood of our lover's death suddenly strikes us as a relief? The Roses spit the most dreaded emotions into each other's faces—often literally—and we laugh with the shock of recognition.

Danny DeVito's direction thrives on distortion—camera angles even lower than his own eye level, countless bizarre deep-focus shots, a point-of-view angle from a flying plate—so the best scenes are the most manic ones. Gags involving the children and pets are also brought off hilariously. In general, though, the less hectic moments are somewhat less funny, and the pacing is erratic. Playing Oliver's friend and the movie's narrator, DeVito wimples out at the end, explaining the story as a pro-marriage parable, but his own character seems the fool in this tragiccomedy, and isn't to be taken too seriously. ▼



CAUGHT UP IN THE WRECKAGE

Barbara (Kathleen Turner) and Oliver (Michael Douglas)

destruction into the realm of deconstruction. As the Roses gleefully and systematically demolish a mansion full of expensive, useless junk, the film happily explodes the values of a society that associates all human pleasures with progressively more costly purchases.

For the Roses, acquisition is pleasure; there is no substitute. They meet at an auction, hotly outbidding each other for a porcelain figurine. The idea of acquiring each other is soon the bigger turn-on, and they wind up having "multi-orgasmic" sex. Embarking on a shared life of stock-

er angles even lower than his own eye level, countless bizarre deep-focus shots, a point-of-view angle from a flying plate—so the best scenes are the most manic ones. Gags involving the children and pets are also brought off hilariously. In general, though, the less hectic moments are somewhat less funny, and the pacing is erratic. Playing Oliver's friend and the movie's narrator, DeVito wimples out at the end, explaining the story as a pro-marriage parable, but his own character seems the fool in this tragiccomedy, and isn't to be taken too seriously. ▼

Film

Independence Daze

Born on the Fourth of July. Directed by Oliver Stone. Written by Oliver Stone and Ron Kovic. Produced by A. Kitman Ho and Oliver Stone. Distributed by Universal Pictures.

by Peter Bowen

At the end of Oliver Stone's first trip to Vietnam, *Platoon*, Charlie Sheen ascends to heaven with the consoling thought that America was not really at war with the Vietnamese people, but with itself. In *Platoon*'s sequel, *Born on the Fourth of July*, not just individual citizens and their country are at civil war, but the film itself. At once radical and conservative, realistic and stylized, an autobiography and an historical drama, *Fourth of July* celebrates its own patriotic title by remembering the paradoxical American tradition of assimilating the very radical forces which might tear the country asunder.

Based on Ron Kovic's nightmarish memoirs of a patriot radicalized by his paralyzing experience in Vietnam and at home, this film marries the horrors of Vietnam and the country which created them with the promise of political change. In the end, this film emerges as a great American film, not because it is great, but because it embodies what is most horrific and most profoundly hopeful in America.

As an epic chronicling America's involvement in Vietnam, the film seems less interested in the drama of conflict than in recording conflicting opinions. As such, Kovic's personal odyssey seems to be that of a pollster, registering and absorbing the multiple voices he encounters. Scored to John Williams' sickly-sweet soundtrack, the film drags Kovic (Tom Cruise) from home to war to V.A. Hospital to Mexico to the 1972 Republican convention, so that he might see and hear everything. As an allegory of America itself—after all, they were both born on the

same day—Kovic absorbs everything, even the crippling effect of the war's violence, so that he might recuperate the myth of America as a space of assimilation, as the containment of paradoxical opinions.

In glorifying the difficult work of American politics, *Fourth of July* mobilizes another profoundly American trait: puritanism. While Stone could hardly be called a humorous director, this film is not only not funny, but purposefully unpleasant. Like Ron's mother (Caroline Kava) who shrieks in ecstatic revulsion at the very sound of "erect fucking penis," the film takes pleasure in its own denial. From the nauseatingly "nice" scenes of Massapequa as a breeding ground for American imperialism and patriotic values to the painfully real images of shit and vomit flowing beneath moaning, uncared for veterans at a V.A. hospital, the film takes itself very seriously. Only in Mexico, outside of American borders, can



HE'S MY YANKEE DOODLE SWEETHEART...

(l-r) Frank Whaley, Richard Panebianco, Rob Camilletti, Jerry Levine, Tom Cruise, Stephen Baldwin

paralyzed veterans locate a nervous pleasure in recognizing their physical inability and *feel it*. Even here, pleasure is a delusion, a paid tourist event; Kovic and his maniacal friend, Charlie (Willem Dafoe), realize this while wrestling each other from their wheelchairs in the middle of the Mexican desert: pleasure makes no sense without a cock.

The film's castration complex unmasks the very myths of assimilation and puritanism it wants to promote. For

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Stand and Deliver

Censorship and the Music Industry

by Victoria Starr

In the next decade we need to bring about a change in social and cultural values which will correspond to the change in political values witnessed in the eighties.

—Patrick Buchanan

Immigrants and faggots/They make no sense to me/They come to our country/And think they'll do as they please/Like start some mini-Iran or spread some fuckin' disease.

—Axl Rose, Guns n' Roses

They stand at opposite ends of the spectrum, Pat and Axl, ostensibly the worst of enemies. Axl, with his lust for wild women and a cheap high, is the quintessential youth gone astray, a perfect living specimen of America's future in peril. But if we consider their hidden agendas, we find that they're actually the best of enemies. Both are staunch patriots, America First-ers, who leave no room for diversity in their dry White worlds. Which means that as the anti-censorship debate rages on, and we scramble to procure our own freedom of expression, we must also be scrambling to secure our freedom to exist. In this context, what do we do with the Axl Roses of the world? Or better yet, acknowledging that yes, this man is dangerous, how can we prevent him from influencing America's youth, and at the same time not engage in censorship?

While the issue of censorship was particularly focused on the art world last year, it has historically not been applied with such fervor to the so-called "fine arts." Rather, the debate has usually been concerned with pop culture, ranging from music to television to the film industry's practice of rating movies. And less about who spends

government money, the debate is often centered around the influence pop culture has over the masses, particularly the young masses. Which is why we have groups like the Parents' Music Resource Center, or PMRC (remember Tipper Gore and the call to label rock albums containing obscene language?).

that anyone stands up for our right to be respected, as women, as lesbians and gay men, or as any other disenfranchised group. But we must again be clear of their agenda. As Anthony DeCurtis points out in his article "Music's Mean Season" (*Rolling Stone*, December 28, 1989), the PMRC's Susan Baker (wife of Secretary of State James Baker) sits on the board of Focus on the Family, headed by Reverend James C. Dobson, a prominent right-wing anti-abortionist. And that's just the tip of the iceberg; connections between the PMRC and the fundamentalist movement abound.

Which leads us to the real problem behind censorship: while the ideas espoused by Ice-T and Axl Rose fall far short of promoting freedom of expression for any-

one but themselves, we can hardly count on a handful of politicians and bureaucrats to do the right thing either. Once a law is in place, its application is out of our hands.

There is a more important point, though, and that is that censorship, in this context, refers to governmental or institutional policing. It does not refer to an individual's right to actively object to particular ideas or forms of expression (the key word here is *active*). Nor does it refer to a private group's right to control what is expressed through them, whether it be a record company, a radio station, or your local record store.

In other words, private enterprise, and more specifically, the

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DICK 'EM HARD

Ice-T promotes a strange form of freedom

And why we have such a vile, sexist rap artist as Ice-T becoming a veritable hero of the anti-censorship movement for his song "Freedom of Speech." Here is a man who not only announces to his audiences that "Everyone with AIDS, keep quiet," but who, as keynote speaker at a recent music convention, explained that the reason Tipper and company were so uptight about rock music was because they needed someone to take them in the back room and "dick 'em hard a few times. Then they'll be shoutin' to turn it up."

The fact that the PMRC has gone after people like Axl Rose, and Miami's 2 Nice Crew (authors of the rap song "Treat her like a Prostitute") further confounds the issues, since it's not often

Music

Shocked Again

Captain Swing by Michelle Shocked.
Polygram Records.

by Rachel Pepper

Just when it seems that Michelle Shocked fans know what to expect, this multi-talented, left-of-center folkie fools us all by releasing *Captain Swing*, an album of—believe it or not—swing tunes. Bearing only the faintest resemblance to Shocked's previous album, the best-selling *Short Sharp Shocked*, the new album contains no Texas songs, no New York subway songs, no Anchorage-type ballads and only a trace of Shocked's customary confrontational politics. Yet despite all its differences, one thing is remarkably similar. Like Shocked's previous albums, *Captain Swing* is most decidedly a winner.

How could it fail to be? Shocked, my favorite anarchist-squatter turned media-darling, is one of today's most creative women in music. And if swing seems a strange departure for a musician who set MTV on its ear with her politics, but coaxed even sceptical listeners into fans with rocking songs like "If Love was a Train," consider who we're talking about here. After all, this is Shocked, the woman who gained critical attention by recording her first album (as an unknown) on a Sony cassette player at a folk festival in Texas, and only a year later appeared in the pages of *Newsweek*. This is the woman who once opened for British folk activist Billy Bragg, and less than a year later sold out her own North American tour.

Over the past year, Shocked has remained my favorite "is she or isn't she," winning lesbian hearts with her great tunes, outright support of gay rights and cute-as-a-button good looks. Now she's apologizing for the "excesses" of her last album. A recent *Spin* article mentions at least five times that Shocked is now living in LA with her true love boyfriend. It's all rather surprising, but, if

it takes a straight, self-proclaimed "skateboard punk rocker" to write such a tender, woman-loving song as "Anchorage," it's easy to see why the "women's music" business is undergoing such a serious shake-down.

If *Captain Swing* seems like too radical a departure for Shocked, consider that it must have been Shocked herself who decided not to follow up her now classic *Short Sharp Shocked* with anything remotely similar in style. Consider that Shocked was recently quoted as saying she's "shifting her emphasis away from radical politics." Consider that Shocked has never sounded more musically at home. After all, it is Shocked herself who is fond of saying that all good music swings. To get that swinging feeling, she equipped herself with boozing brass, saxophones, a mandolin, accordion, percussionist and background vocals, and had some good old fashioned fun in the recording studio.

Fortunately for Shocked and her followers, *Captain Swing* really does swing. It's not swing in the purely Glenn Miller or Benny Goodman Big Band style, however. Instead, imagine 1940s-style northern New Orleans swing which has been whipped up with Shocked's punk-folk sensibility, spit out in a wild new format, and blessed with Shocked's own particular funky brand of humor. Then you'll have some sense of how "Don't You Mess Around with My Little Sister" (originally from "Texas Campfire Tapes") could be revamped from an underground folk classic into a foot wagging, singable little swing number.

Better yet, try to imagine who else but Shocked could get away with producing a shocking pink compact disc complete with songs like "Looks Like Mona Lisa (Smells Like Tuna Fish)" and "God is a Real Estate Developer."



SWING OUT SISTER

Michelle Shocked changes gears (and clothes)

housed in the ugliest outer cover you've ever seen. Imagine lyrics such as, "Send me a dozen long stem roses/I tell you what I will do/I'll bend them into a crown of thorns/And send it right back to you." And imagine Shocked's slippery little voice belting out surprisingly womanly turns of phrase such as,

*My love is like a wishing well
Your love is like a clear blue sky
Sometimes it takes a thunderstorm*

See SHOCKED on page 64

Performance

A Bore is Starred

Second Sleep. Written and performed by Dudley. The Pyramid. 101 Avenue A. Jan. 4, 11, 18 and 25.

by Jonn Wasser

Dear Readers,
I am not, by nature, a vindictive or vitriolic human being. To my knowledge, I have no enemies, although there are probably one or two individuals who if posed with the question, "Do you wish ill upon Jonn Wasser?" would respond in the affirmative—and feel guilty the rest of their lives. And like all people who earn their living through creative endeavors, I dislike seeing my literary efforts criticized. The maxim "Everyone's a critic" rings true much too often. Still, I go placidly amidst the haste, especially when venturing to offbeat cabaret clubs or performance art spaces. A mind may be a terrible thing to waste, but an open one—mine, that is—is my source of bread and butter.

Last week I went to the Pyramid to see a new work entitled *Second Sleep*. My friends, this is not a sequel to the *First Sleep* or heaven help us, the Bogart/Bacall picture, *The Big Sleep*. No siree. *Second Sleep* is 45 minutes of self-indulgent claptrap, the worst excuse for the phrase "Performance Art" since that no talent, Impala, galloped onto the Cafe Bustelo stage and asked us to pay for the privilege of seeing him wrench his guts out. *Second Sleep* stars Dudley, who doesn't do right by a longshot. Who, I ask, encourages these people? Are they Star Search rejects? The Pyramid cannot be that pressed for talent. Maybe it is.

You probably want to know about *Second Sleep*'s plot. I certainly did. And this is the para-



WRITTEN ALL OVER HIS FACE

Performance artist Dudley

graph where I'm supposed to mention it; tease you, the reader into becoming excited about the performance. I humbly apologize, but I was unable to uncover a plot or any hint of characterization. A boring speech concerning an inane car trip replete with groping hands hardly constitutes Aristotle's three unities. I defy anyone to tell me this dribble's storyline.

At 9:15 the lights went out and that's where they should have remained. Instead, Dudley took to the stage resembling Jesus in a Bus and Truck tour of *Godspell* all bones and flowing hair intent on preaching to us mere mortals. Imagine, dear readers, sitting on an uncomfortable metal chair and watching a plotless 2,700 second descent into performance art hell. I admire this man's chutzpah. He truly has no shame. As Dudley progressed through his *Second Sleep*, I desperately tried to

avoid my first. Luckily for you, but unfortunately for me, I managed to stay awake. Counting the number of painted stars on the ceiling and walls helped enormously.

The evening contained a fair amount of, dare I call those vibrating strains, singing? Dudley also periodically plays the guitar. Yes, it's better than his warbling, but that in itself is not saying much. Watching Dudley do the wrong thing on stage evoked memories of my late grandmother. Whenever she saw a bad performer, my grandmother would invariably ask, "What's he doing? Posing for animal crackers?" I wonder which animal my grandmother would have in mind if she were alive to see *Second Sleep*. I dare not venture a guess.

You may ask, "Was there anything memorable about *Second Sleep*?" Well, I did scribble one witticism on my notepad. In the Gospel according to Dudley, "once a dick has come, that come is gone." Novel observation. I must remind myself to send this information to my friend Heloise. She's currently compiling her 1990 *Book of Helpful Hints*. Of course, Heloise will most likely add her own two cents... "Use a towel, wet on one side, dry on the other as the best possible stain remover. Deposit towel immediately into laundry bag."

Finally, dear readers, Mr. Dudley had the courage to take a curtain call. No eggs flew across the room. Instead, there was polite applause which the star readily acknowledged with a sly "Only Kidding."

ONLY KIDDING! Was Dudley speaking about the recently departed Off-Broadway show or was this his opportunity to tell us the previous 45 minutes were a total joke? If he meant the latter, I could have saved the trouble.

Welcome to 1990!
Sincerely,
Jonn Wasser

Dance

moveMENT

ManMade. Tuesday, January 16 at 8—Randy Warshaw Dance Company and Dendy Dance. Wednesday, January 17 at 8—Gallman's Newark Dance Theater and Deja Vu Dance Theater. Thursday, January 18 at 8—Peter Pucci Plus Dancers and Second Hand Dance Company. Friday, January 19 at 8—Stephen Petronio Company and Bill Young and Dancers. Saturday, January 20 at 2 and 8—Gallman's Newark Dance Theater and Deja Vu Dance Company. Sunday, January 21 at 7:30—Peter Pucci Plus Dancers and Second Hand Dance Company. Joyce Theater, 175 8th Avenue. 242-0800.

by Otis Stuart

Manhattan's Joyce Theater is ringing in the new decade with a two-week toast to a phenomenon of the 1980s: American male choreographers who, for the first time in the history of our modern dance, are giving that redoubtable matriarchy a run for its collective money. This year, the theater's annual winter dance festival is called *ManMade* and, through this Sunday, it will showcase the choreography of a dozen young men. Nine are with their own companies—Mark Dendy, Alfred Gallman, Ralph Lemon, Barry Martin, Stephen Petronio, Peter Pucci, Doug Varone, Randy Warshaw and Bill Young—the remainder, Greg O'Brien, Andy Horowitz and Paul Gordon, are the collaborative trio who lead the Second Hand Dance Company.

The choices all but synopsize the 80s, beginning with the sheer quantity. The 80s were the decade when men began to multiply in dance. Until then, American modern dance was dominated, if not defined outright, by its women. One reason for that, obviously, was the Native American incapacity to accept a man as a dancer. It's only just become a respectable masculine career. Another reason was the capacity of the founding mothers to hold sway. The men whose work and companies lasted and had impact—Merce Cunningham, Jose Limon, Paul Taylor, Alvin Ailey—were the exceptions. Otherwise, the fort was female from the first. Ruth St. Denis may have shared the stage with her sometime husband Ted Shawn in their trailblazing troupe Denishawn, but she never relinquished it to him, and Denishawn graduate Martha Graham had had her own company for a decade before it saw a male member. Things began to change with the 60s and the Judson Church experiments, although even into the 70s, when American modern dance was reaching its third and fourth generations, women widely outnumbered men in the vanguard of contemporary dance. As the Joyce Festival indicates, this is no more. Mark Morris was the single biggest

news of the 80s, followed by the fleet of young men who began to identify themselves as choreographers of intent and imagination. Their particular language has become as identifiable as the signature of their predecessors, and *ManMade* is a Berlitz course in 80s dance. The decade that broke the minimalist stronghold on musical alternatives, for example, is well represented by the Warshaw/Dendy program, with scores ranging from the jazz-influenced new music of Belgium's Trio Bravo for Warshaw's *Horizon* to the alternation of Chopin and silence in Dendy's *Mouvements 1 and 2*. The decade that recomplicated dance technique, adding the arches and arrests of contact improvisation to the standard modern dance vocabulary, is at its vigorous best in Bill Young, a fierce and fearless virtuoso whose dances stretch all physical possibilities.

The 80s also marked a big return to text, to dances that not only took on the complexity of human emotion but our complicity in the state of the world. The decade's dismal prospects for life on this planet were met with a myriad of dance responses, from the resilient humor of Pilobolus grad-



Dancer-choreographer Stephen Petronio

Photo Chris Callis

uate Peter Pucci to the saw-edged aggressiveness of Stephen Petronio. The one thing no one did was shy away, and the commitment of 80s choreographers to what they do is perhaps their strongest suit and the 90s best bet. Alfred Gallman forged his Newark Dance Theater, school and all, out of New Jersey's inner cities, and Barry Martin established his Deja Vu company after being left paralyzed by an automobile accident in South Africa, an incident in which racial restriction led directly to a worst-case scenario—Martin's spinal cord was severed during a 75-mile ride to a Black hospital. These are people in dance for a reason, the reason why the Joyce Festival is so important. The stakes are high. ▼

Books

Goodbye, Guppies

Horse and Other Stories by Bo Huston. Amethyst Press. \$8.95. 156 pp.

by Ira Silverberg

Kathy Acker recently suggested that, "...there will be an upsurge in *Maximalist* writing in the 90s. *Maximalist* in the sense of feeling and structure, where writers will create hybrid, multi-genre works of prose, deriving their material from a larger pool of literary sources. Writers will be moving away from the throw-away minimalism which has recently been the bane of American letters."

This trend, along with a modicum of willingness from certain publishing houses, is allowing the reader of contemporary fiction a greater opportunity to hear voices from previously underserved literary communities. Last year,

within the ranks of our own community, we saw the successful publication of Dennis Cooper's *Closer*, Sarah Schulman's *After Delores*, Kevin Killian's *Sby* and Dorothy Allison's *Trash*. These writers, sometimes called practitioners of the *New Narrative* explore much grittier turf than that rather suburban one tread upon by former golden boys and girls like David Leavitt, Gary Glickman and Helen Eisenbach.

This proliferation of *Maximalist* or *New Narrative* fiction is being helped along by the newly formed Amethyst Press. Specializing in a brand of post-Burroughsian gay male fiction, Amethyst is presently working with a new breed of writers, including Cooper, Killian, Mark Ameen, Patrick Moore and Bo Huston, whose *Horse and Other Stories* is being published this month.

Huston's collection of stories reads like latter-day Hubert Selby. Each story somehow manages to capture the essence of the underbelly of American society—even when set in the Upper East Side townhouses of the nouveau riche. "All gay writers are informed by disenfranchisement," Huston believes. "Even Leavitt is informed by an 'otherness'—as much as he tries to escape it."

Like David Leavitt, Bo Huston was reared in the nondescript world of middle class America. The similarities end there, however. A former heroin addict, Huston takes the experiences of "others" and translates them in his poignant and expertly crafted stories. The title story, *Horse*, is a fine example of Huston's ability to enlighten the world of his reader to the needs of the undeserved. In the form of a letter to his lawyer, the protagonist, a failed child star-cum-newly clean junkie, touchingly explains the spiritual bankruptcy that comes with addiction and hints at the still unknown hope that awaits him.

Telling the tales of reformed murderers turned into motel operators, drunken art-world intellectuals and their exploits with amputees, and suburban husbands who have, for the first time, tasted the forbidden fruit of male hustlers, Huston gathers a fine collection of outsiders in his protagonists. "Those who have experienced a life with drugs—and as a gay person—have been informed by those experiences," says Huston. "Most of the 20th century writers who've lived on have come out of that experience, like Genet and Burroughs. Our literary tradition is overwhelmed by 'others'."

Huston is careful, however, to point out exactly which "others" his literary alliance is with. "I have nothing in common with Beat writers," claims Huston. "They were more concerned with documentation than they were with story telling. My roots go back further to, say, Flannery O'Connor." He is even slightly hesitant to align himself with *New Narrative* writers.

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HORSE AND OTHER STORIES



BY BO HUSTON

Books

A Matter of Tradition

Federico García Lorca: A Life. By Ian Gibson. Pantheon. \$29.95. 551 pp., including index.

by John Preston

In 1936, after they had captured his home city of Granada in one of the opening campaigns of the Spanish Civil War, Federico García Lorca, then 38, was taken prisoner by the Falangists. Along with a school teacher and two bullfighters whose politics had also offended the



The poet at 18.

fascists, he was executed by firing squad.

Decades later, Judy Grahn was in the audience during a performance of a musical work based on the poet's life. She wrote:

Women around me whisper relentlessly, "Why are the men always so concerned with blood and violence?" they

wonder. But I think I know. If Gertrude Stein had been taken to a lonely road and shot, that would be a subject of our women's poems. You bet it would. It is a matter of history, and of experience. It is a matter of tradition.

Ian Gibson, who is, ironically, a straight man, has added immeasurably to the gay tradition with this biography, a book which every gay man who wants to understand art and politics and sexuality and their nexus should read.

Before Gibson, the world had spent more than 50 years trying to hide the fact that Lorca was a homosexual, or, at minimum, dismissing the importance of sexuality in his life. The men who killed him hadn't been so recalcitrant. After the first volleys were fired, one of the assassins later confessed, he went up to the poet's corpse and fired "two bullets into his arse for being a queer."

García Lorca was one of the most talented artists in the history of Spanish literature, his career being comparable only to Cervantes'. His remarkable oeuvre of poetry, song and essays also includes *Blood Wedding*, *The House of Bernarda Alba* and other classics of the stage.

He was born in the countryside. He grew up listening to and valuing the folk music and tales of the people around him. His middle-class family eventually moved into the city, but the sounds and words of the common folk stayed with him and would become the foundation of his work.

García Lorca first began publishing in Granada, where he was the leader of a group of exuberant young turks who challenged the narrowmindedness of the Spanish literary establishment with their own reviews and theater productions. He eventually went on to study in Madrid where he met the man who may have been the first love of his life, Salvador Dalí. We're not really sure about the extent of their relationship because so many of García Lorca's papers were lost during the Civil War or destroyed and Dalí, who later married, remained coy about what went on. Many other people who had been close to García Lorca refused to talk about his sexual behavior, evidently thinking they would slander his memory.

All through his book, biographer Gibson expresses frustration and outrage at the way García Lorca's homosexual history has been erased. A friend, who was given his most personal papers to hold in case of the poet's death, destroyed them after reading their contents, and then refused to discuss them, taking their information and confessions to his grave. Still, there's no doubt that García Lorca was not only gay, but that his sexuality deeply informed his creations.

In the beginning of his career, García Lorca's closeted homosexuality showed itself in ways many of us would

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identify with our first coming out: he made child-bearing into idolatry (barren women left without children form the themes of many of his works), and he confided to straight friends that he loathed effeminate "queers." Often his confusion was framed in misogyny; both he and Dali claimed a deep revulsion to women's genitals in their youth. But, as Garcia Lorca grew comfortable with his sexuality, the poet struck strong relationships with many women in the Spanish theater. Increasingly he socialized with other "known" homosexuals, sharing stories and adventures with them and using his sexual gifts as a means of identifying with other people.

Garcia Lorca travelled extensively to the Americas during his life. One trip was to Manhattan; he wrote his famous *The Poet in New York* about his months here. He was swept up with the music and folklore of Black America. Like so many other white homosexuals of the time, he identified strongly and warmly with Blacks, finding their oppressed position in a white society parallel to the way he was treated as a homosexual.

It was his role as an outsider, as a homosexual, which fueled Garcia Lorca's later career, especially his politics. He became a passionate supporter of the Republican cause in Spain. A world-renown playwright by then, he formed a people's theater which toured through the countryside. He understood his words would make a revolution and ignored many offers to escape the approaching conflict, to go to Argentina, Cuba or Mexico or any number of other places where he would have been safe. He stayed in Spain, often within company of the last, and quite probably truest, love of his life, a man most others knew only as his secretary, Rafael Rapun.

This biography, Gibson's life work, is meant to be authoritative and has at times an academic weight, but the power of the poet's story is compelling, the tragedy is classic.

In the end the book takes on its own narrative force and the reader is left enmeshed in this remarkable life which should be one of the great role models for modern gay men. ▼

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According to Huston, who is 30 and has just completed a new novel, "The older I get and the more I continue to write, the less interested I am in experimenting and the more drawn I am to story telling. I'm not even quite sure what this *New Narrative* is. Of course, if you picked apart one of these books and placed it against mine, there is indeed a similarity. None of us are working with traditional plot structures—we do have that in common. There are other things taking the place of plot structure—a narrative of tone, image and emotion prevail these days rather than plot."

Having grown up reading Carson McCullers and Truman Capote while also exploring Hubert Selby and William Burroughs, Huston has, perhaps, exalted his own hybrid. After toying with experimental fiction early on, he found himself drawn back into the world of Southern American writing. He points out that, "The Southern writers also wrote about the disenfranchised. They just did it in a more, well, linear fashion."

Huston backs up a bit, though. He admits that writers such as Cooper, Allison, fellow San Franciscans Robert Gluck and Steve Abbott and himself share more than just a bit of common ground. "We all have a renewed fascination with writing. That in itself informs us and departs from the 50s, 60s and 70s writers. Many of us are indeed interested in the text itself. We have returned to the writing as the art form—not necessarily the content therein. Seventies writers were solely concerned with 'gayness' as a principle. This is not the case today—at least not with the writers we're talking about."

In the case of Bo Huston's *Horse and Other Stories*, "gayness" is merely a co-factor in the scheme of things. Although certain gay elements or episodes appear throughout this collection, they in no way connote the poofiness of the writing that our community produced in the 70s nor are they as concerned with the externals which seem far too prevalent in the guppie fiction of the 80s. Rather,

Horse and Other Stories is the quintessential gay book of the 90s—a book which need not be gay to be good but certainly is a reflection of the best writing coming out of the gay community today.

Dennis Cooper, an old friend of Huston's, used these words on the book's jacket, "...sensitive, stately prose [which] translates the gay underclass experience with such authenticity yet acumen that it seems the work of a first rate double agent. *Horse* brings to the front lines of contemporary fiction...tones of fascinating, even dangerous ripeness."

Reflecting on Cooper's support and that which he received from other friends around the publishing business, Huston remembers when "I didn't try very hard for a career in writing. I was too busy getting stoned and being afraid. When I emerged out of addiction, I explored my writing." That exploration has created a body of work which deserves to be read and re-read. *Horse and Other Stories* is a remarkable debut.

Bo Huston will read with Sarah Schulman on Monday, January 22 at 8:30 pm at The Kitchen, 512 West 19th Street. Bo Huston will also read at A Different Light, 548 Hudson St. January 25 at 8 pm. ▼

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To tell me when I'm dry.

Captain Swing is sure to be a surprise to established Shocked fans, who may feel trepidation about her increasingly produced sound. Nevertheless, Shocked's lyrics display some sense of political awareness in this largely "for fun" album, and she's still healthily wary of the system that's made her a star. Although *Captain Swing* may not win Shocked many new followers, it also shouldn't dissuade her earlier fans from marveling at the many talents this woman possesses. What remains to be seen is whether Shocked can stay a political and musical renegade even while becoming—largely against her will—more of a mainstream star. One thing remains certain. Despite whatever changes occur in Shocked's political or musical outlook, whichever unexpected ways she may turn, she's sure to find success. ▼

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while, in the American spirit of voicing opinion, the film pays lip service to the issues of race and gender, it does so only through the experience of a straight white male who, paralyzed and impotent, will never realize the pleasures his privilege would grant him. By the film's phallocentric logic, the only way to make sense of the horrors of war, of racism, of sexism, of perhaps even homophobia, is through the terrifying specter of castration. Nowhere is this fear more clearly embodied—or dis-embodied, as the case may be—than in the casting of Tom Cruise. The film internalizes Cruise's acting career from beef-cake adolescent to gung-ho patriot within the film's plot, transforms him into a serious actor by making him at once handicapped and ugly. Thus, evoking its seriousness, the film incorporates one of America's sexiest stars by puritanically taking away his sex appeal.

Such contradictions seem at the heart of the film's message and medium. Using units of the American legion as extras, the film creates some of the most anti-Republican images of the last ten years. (For people who have seen Bob Huff and Adam Hussak's powerful video, "We Are Not Republicans," it is hard not to compare the real-life violence of Republicans against AIDS activists to Stone's fictional depiction of Republicans against protesting veterans.) But perhaps the most profound contradiction occurs at the film's end. While once shoved to the very margins of American politics, Kovic finds himself in the end placed at its very center addressing the 1976 Democratic convention. Kovic's journey, which moved him from stubborn patriot to heroic and radical activist, comes full circle. When he approaches the podium and remembers his mother's voice prophetically describing how one day he would speak to a large crowd and "say great things," we realize that at the heart of Kovic's radical success is the stern, conservative family which taught him the discipline to succeed. ▼

CENSORSHIP from page 58

music industry, can and does determine what will and will not be heard by the masses. Gerard Cosloy (Homestead Records) made just such a determination when he released the Frog's fake-homosexual album "It's Only Right and Natural" without the cut from the demo tape entitled "Nigger Pile." While Cosley figured the parodies about gay men and AIDS would be received with amusement, he knew that songs about "niggers" would not. This is not censorship, but a simple case of supply and demand.

Which explains how an alleged closet case like David Geffen could sign a band like Guns 'n' Roses in the first place. While Blacks in America are still not treated with the respect and equality they deserve, at least they have dared to fight back, not only with civil disobedience, but with organized economic power. In 1990 the Black community is recognized as a major consumer segment, a fact that all urban radio stations, and all major record labels understand.

The lesbian and gay community, too, represents a decent portion of the record buying population, not to mention that many of us create music as well. The problem (which is one suffered by women in general), is that we are far too complacent, our time spent ignoring (or accepting) the images society presents of us. Instead of fighting back, we hide away, either in the passivity of "women's music," or in the ecstasy of the discos (where we get so high that we'll listen to anything).

So how can we try to affect this culture which we can barely tolerate at times? One way is to put our money on the table. If we want to support a band, we need to buy their material, and hound our local night clubs to book the act. Equally important, we need to get involved in the thought process behind music criticism, either by trying to get articles published in the mainstream press, or at least writing angry letters to editors. And we mustn't be afraid to get up in people's faces. Despite the Griff gaff, imagine what the world would be like if we had our own Public Enemy. ▼

GOSSIP WATCH from page 51

Yes, Fran, you'd better sit down for this one: YOUR CHILDREN COULD BE QUEER. In fact, Fran, it could be even closer than that. You know what they say: The biggest fag bashers turn out to be...oh, goddess...you really do need some education, Fran. And that's what I think we'll give you.

I suggest that everyone give dear, dear Fran a call at her office and tell her or her machine just what you think of her homophobia. The number is 212-210-1589. Hope you learn a thing or two, Fran. ▼

MYERS from page 54

Center's Shuff said. "The number of excess beds is totally irrelevant if homes won't take AIDS patients. And they won't. And Myers is aware of this."

Jack Ryan, in the Fort Wayne area, agreed. "We [at Ft. Wayne's AIDS Task Force] had a patient who was forced to travel 400 miles across Kentucky and Indiana before he could find a nursing home that would take him. And he never found one. We had to find one for him, and these tragedies happen here all the time."

PWAs on State Policy Boards?

The primary AIDS policy group in Indiana, the State AIDS Policy Group, which advises the Board of Health on AIDS policy, has no self-described PWA, PWARC or HIV positive person. And the ACLU's Stevens goes so far as to say that Myers has actively thwarted attempts to appoint PWAs to that body by stating that it would be too taxing for them to serve on such a group.

Dierdre Barrett, director of the state's HIV/AIDS Program, defends Myers, saying that "he doesn't make appointments to the AIDS Policy Group." Others, however, agree with Justice Inc.'s Robinson. "If Myers had wanted a PWA on that group, there would have been a PWA on that group."

In New York, where basic policy organizations such as GMHC and ACT UP were essentially founded and have been run by PWAs, the concept of a health commissioner indifferent or hostile to PWA input on AIDS policy is chilling to many in the community. ▼

GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

Send calendar items to:
Rick X, Going Out
Box 790
New York, NY 10108

Items must be received by
Monday to be included in the
following week's issue.

MONDAY JANUARY 15

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

CENTER SPORTS sees NY Knicks vs. Chicago Bulls, basketball game; at Madison Square Garden, 33rd St & 7th Ave; 1 pm; members \$30/non-members \$40; 620-7310

KAREN SMITH directs Eric Booth's *Metamorphosis: a slice of black gay life*, an original play about a 60-year-old black drag queen, a 35-year-old ex-pimp and rehabilitated addict, and a 25-year-old Hispanic who loves the good life of sex, disco and drugs, and who puts the other two through changes; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; today and TUES, JAN 16 at 8 pm; \$8 advance/\$10 door; reservations and info 893-9852

TUESDAY JANUARY 16

KAREN SMITH directs Eric Booth's *Metamorphosis: a slice of black gay life*, see JAN 15

OUT IN THE '90s presents *Talking With Parents*, an interview by Amy Ashworth (a founding member of Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays) with a mother of two gay children; Ms. Ashworth will appear on *Out in the '90s* tonight and every third Thursday; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, Channel C/16, 11 pm to midnight; 245-1570

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 17

COALITION FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS Reception honoring Bella Abzug and celebrat-

ing the Domestic Partnership Legislation before the NYC Council; at Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, 57 Bethune St (btwn Washington and West Sts, up ramp in courtyard); 6:30-8:30 pm; rsvp 627-1398

NEW YORK ADVERTISING & COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK First Meeting of the Gay 90's, featuring author and Village Voice columnist Michael Musto, who will be autographing his *Manhattan on the Rocks*; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, in the Network Room, 3rd Fl; 6:30-9:30 pm; members \$5/non-members \$7 (first drink free); 516-0380

BROOKLYN WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS Two-Week Defense Class, today and next Wednesday, pointers on basic self-defense with special attention to concerns of lesbians and gay men; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7-9 pm; sliding fee \$5-\$30; register 718/788-1775

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES *Videos about the Resistance-Conspiracy Case defendants*, who speak about their experiences as political prisoners; two of the women are lesbians active in the anti-imperialist movement; Barbara Zeller and Eve Rosahn lead discussion; all women welcome; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; \$5 more/less if; 874-7232

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS *Eroticizing Safer Sex Workshop*, to learn the how-to's of playing more safely while meeting other men; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-10:30 pm; free, no registration required; 807-6655, TDD 645-7470

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, a new play about two gay men, a comic and an activist, and their conflicting passions; at the Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St (at Bleecker); 8 pm; \$12; 869-3530 (plays thru FEB 4; WED-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 7 and 9:30 pm, SUN at 7 pm)

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: Jim

Belushi in *K-9*; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

THURSDAY JANUARY 18

IN OUR OWN WRITE Last Day to Register for Jan. 25 Writing Workshop with Dorothy Randall Gray; *Ancestors Within Us*, workshop will focus on past life, music imagery, time and place, and inanimate animation writing exercises, for writers of all levels; Ms. Gray teaches writing at Hunter College and is a poet and performance artist, co-founder of *Gap-Tooth Girlfriends*; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 6:30-9:30 pm; \$10; register 718/384-2234

GREATER GOTHAM BUSINESS COUNCIL Program for Small Business Owners, the first of several monthly programs, with a series of short workshops giving an overview on small business development, legal issues in the start-up, office size and location, finding a "unique niche," insurance and benefits, tax opportunities and liabilities; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, in the Network Room, 3rd floor; 6 pm socializing, 7 pm meeting; GGBC 337-8700, Center 620-7310

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, see JAN 17

INTERNATIONAL THEATER OF POETRY AND PAIN presents Annie Sprinkle: *Post Porn Modernist*, directed by Emilio Cubeiro; "the work charts writer/performer Annie Sprinkle's personal odyssey through the worlds of art and ideology, commerce and pornography, a journey which leads her to alternative models of sexual health and well-being"; this week only; THU & SUN at 8 pm (\$12), FRI & SAT at 8 and 11 pm (\$14); 255-5793 (Editor's note: the artist and director say you should "feel free to take photos")

JOHN YOHalem presents *All My Avatars: The Pagan Soap Opera*, a staged reading investi-

prepared by Rick X
with additional information from
The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of
New York

For more information or referrals, to
rap, or to volunteer, call the GLSB
daily, noon to midnight, 212-777-1800

gating, "the New Age, when natural religion conquers the world...what soap operas we'll be watching"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; \$10; 691-0862

THE PYRAMID presents Dudley in his new performance work *Second Sleep*, a "homerootic, religio-sexual work-in-progress"; 101 Avenue A (at 6 St); 9 pm; info 473-5625 (presented this and every Thursday in January)

FRIDAY JANUARY 19

IDENTITY HOUSE Welcome Social for men and women, to learn more about ID House's rap group meetings on personal issues of concern to gay men and lesbians; 544 6th Ave (btwn 14/15 Sts); 6:30-8:30 pm; 243-8181

THE ANSWER IS LOVING Women Talking Women's Talk AIDS- A Women's Issue; "information enlightens not frightens"; led by Ruth Berman and Connie Kurtz; Sheepshead Bay, Brooklyn; 7:45-10 pm; \$8; 718/998-2305

CASTILLO CULTURAL CENTER presents John S. Patterson In *When the Colored Band Goes Marchin'*, a one-man show dramatizing the African American struggle for freedom and democracy with writings by Patterson and Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Frederick Douglass, Langston Hughes, W.E.B. Dubois, Pat Parker, Alice Walker, with music by Tevin Thomas, direction by Amy Pivar; 500 Greenwich Street (btwn Spring/Canal); 8 pm; \$10; tix 941-5800, press 362-1818 (plays all weekends in January; FRI & SAT at 8, SUN at 3)

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, see JAN 17

INTERNATIONAL THEATER OF POETRY AND PAIN presents Annie Sprinkle: *Post Porn Modernist*, see JAN 18

BODY POSITIVE Friday Night

Social for HIV+ people and their friends, 236 W 73 St (off B'way), 5th Floor; 9 pm to midnight; \$21-1619

SHEscape Closing Night Party at Octagon, with DJ Nancy B; starting next Friday, Shescape will be at the Roxy (515 W 18); Octagon is at 555 W 33 St (btwn 10/11 Aves); doors open 10 pm; \$5 before 11 pm/\$7 after; info 645-6479

SATURDAY JANUARY 20

HOTEP PERFORMING ARTS COMPANY Auditions for lesbian and gay actors of color who wish to become part of a new acting troupe; bring material and be prepared to read; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; noon - 3 pm; 652-1082

CENTER KIDS African-American Celebration, sponsored by the multi-cultural committee; at the Park Slope Methodist Church, 6th Ave and 8th St, Brooklyn; 1-4 pm; leave message at the Center, 212/620-7310, for info

SAGE Gay Nineties Social, with food, entertainment, dancing, friends; at the Gay Synagogue, 57 Bethune St, in the Westbeth Complex; 1-5 pm; 741-2247

CASTILLO CULTURAL CENTER presents John S. Patterson In *When the Colored Band Goes Marchin'*, see JAN 19

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, see JAN 17

INTERNATIONAL THEATER OF POETRY AND PAIN presents Annie Sprinkle: *Post Porn Modernist*, see JAN 18

ASIANS AND FRIENDS NEW YORK 3rd Saturday Social at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; 673-2596

GIRTH AND MIRTH Welcome to the Gay Nineties Social at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm; 620-7310

SUNDAY JANUARY 21

NOW-NYS, NYS-NARAL AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD First Statewide Abortion Rights Rally in Albany, marking the

20th anniversary of the legalization of abortion in New York State ("if you want to keep it that way, join us in Albany"); buses leave Union Square (14 St/Bway) and Columbia U. (116 St/Bway) at 9 am; \$27 round-trip/\$20 low-income; NOW-NYC 807-0721 (overnight buses for those who want to attend both the rally and tomorrow's Lobby Day will leave Sunday morning and return Monday night; checks to NOW-NYC, 15 W 18 St, NYC 10011)

CENTER KIDS Public Forum: *Alternative Insemination 101*, with speakers including a doctor, lawyer, sperm bank representative, and parents who have conceived using AI; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 1-5 pm; \$5 (free child care available); leave message at 620-7310 for info

SAGE Women's Sunday Drop-In Gala Re-opening, in the SAGE Room at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 2-5 pm; 741-2247

DANCE IV Tea Dance, to benefit the Dance and Fireworks Display on Pride Day '90 (June 24); at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 4-8 pm; \$7; 620-7310

CASTILLO CULTURAL CENTER presents John S. Patterson In *When the Colored Band Goes Marchin'*, see JAN 19

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, see JAN 17

INTERNATIONAL THEATER OF POETRY AND PAIN presents the final performance of Annie Sprinkle: *Post Porn Modernist*, see JAN 18

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS 9th Anniversary Celebration, 727-9878

MONDAY JANUARY 22

NOW-NYS, NYS-NARAL AND PLANNED PARENTHOOD Lobby Your Legislators for Choice, in Albany; buses leave Union Square (14 St/Bway) at 6:30 am; \$27 round-trip/\$20 low-income; NOW-NYC 807-0721 (checks to NOW-NYC, 15 W 18 St, NYC 10011)

TIMES SQUARES Free Square Dancing Class for Lesbians and Gay Men; at PS 3, 490 Hudson St (btwn Grove & Christo-

pher); 7:30 pm; 873-3962, 799-2492 (starting JAN 29 classes are \$5 each and enrollment closes)

S.H.A.R.E. Free Introductory Evening anticipating the Jan. 31 - Feb. 4 program on self-healing, *Who Heals?*, with Niro and Amitabh (Robert Birnbaum, Ph.D. in clinical psychology, UC Berkeley), 441 Lafayette St; 7:30-8:30 pm; 460-8074 (also WED, Jan. 24)

THE KITCHEN presents Sarah Schulman reading new and unpublished work; 512 W 19 St; 8:30 pm; \$6; reservations 255-5793

TUESDAY JANUARY 23

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Workshop: *Keep It Up!*, to "reaffirm the importance of safer sex, and feel confident about saying yes, whether you're into casual sex or serious dating, and no matter what your HIV status is"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; noon - 6 pm; register 806-6655, TDD 645-7470

THE CENTER Two-Week First Aid Class, today and next Tuesday, to learn about rescue breathing, bleeding, shock, burns, fractures, seizures; 208 W 13 St; 8-11 pm; \$2; register with Joan, 295-4265 (Fri 7-10 pm, Sat/Sun 11 am - 1 pm)

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24

BROOKLYN WOMEN'S MARTIAL ARTS Two-Week Defense Class, the second of two classes, pointers on basic self-defense with special attention to concerns of lesbians and gay men; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7-9 pm; sliding fee \$5-\$30; register 718/788-1775

S.H.A.R.E. Free Introductory Evening, see WED, Jan. 22

CENTER STAGE sees *The Tenth Man*, Paddy Chayefsky's drama about a man's crisis of faith; at the Vivian Beaumont Theater of Lincoln Center; 8 pm; \$45; 620-7310

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, a new play about two gay men, a comic and an activist, and their conflicting passions; at

the Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St (at Bleecker); 8 pm; \$12; 869-3530 (plays thru FEB 4; WED-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 7 and 9:30 pm, SUN at 7 pm)

SCRABBLE PLAYERS CLUB Game Night, newcomers should bring a board; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8-11 pm; 570-9369

GAY MALE S/M ACTIVISTS Meeting: *Hot Tales for Cold Nights*, with "dramatic readings of the best bits from a wide variety of s/m-themed erotica and literature"; at the Center, 3rd Floor, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm (doors open at 8); \$5; 727-9878

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: Jim Belushi in *Ghostbusters II*; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 24

IN OUR OWN WRITE Writing Workshop with Dorothy Randall Gray: *Ancestors Within Us*, focus on past life, music imagery, time and place, and inanimate animation writing exercises, for writers of all levels; Ms. Gray teaches writing at Hunter College and is a poet and performance artist, co-founder of *Gap-Tooth Girlfriends*; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 6:30-9:30 pm; \$10; register 718/384-2234

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents Kay Hagen, *Internal Affairs: A Journal-Keeping Workbook for Self-Intimacy*, discussing "journal-keeping as a revolutionary act"; 681 Washington St (at Charles St); 7 pm; free, but limited seating; 727-7330

BISEXUAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE Meeting & Pot Luck Dinner at a member's home, 8 pm, 718/353-8245

THE GLINES presents Sidney Morris's *The Wind Beneath My Wings*, see JAN 24

THE PYRAMID presents Dudley in his new performance work *Second Sleep*, a "homoerotic, religio-sexual work-in-progress"; 101 Avenue A (at 6 St); 9 pm; info 473-5625 (presented this and every Thursday in January)

OUTWEEK BEST BETS

Monday

Private Eyes (preppie; male strippers) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th & 6th Aves, 206-7772

Tuesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves) 245-8925

***Love Machine** at Underground 880 Broadway, near 17th St; 254-4005

Wednesday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves) 245-8925

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's Club Bad) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th & 6th Aves, 206-7772

***Pyramid** (Dean Johnson's Rock & Roll Fag Bar) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th & 7th Streets, 420-1590

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drink) 175 Cherry La., Floral Pk, LI, 516-354-9841

Spectrum (free admission all night) 802 64th Street, Brooklyn, 718-238-8213

Stutz (2-4-1 drinks) 202 Westchester Ave., Wh. Plns., 914-761-3100

Twenty/Twenty (gay men after 10 pm) 20 West 20 Street (btwn 5th & 6th Aves), info 645-6479, club 255-6579

Thursday

***Boybar** (has a new wave drag show) 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd & 3rd Aves, 674-7959

***Copacabana** (last Thu. of the month has Susan Bartsch party) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave, 755-8010

***Pyramid** 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th & 7th Streets, 420-1590

Spectrum (free admission all night, 2-4-1 drinks) 802 64th Street, Brooklyn, 718-238-8213

Friday

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Pl., btwn 2nd & 3rd Aves, 674-7959

***Carmelita's** (Chip Duckett's Boy+Boy & Girl+Girl) 150 E 14 St

Columbia Dances (1st Friday of every month, except July) 116th St & Bway, 854-3574 days

Private Eyes (preppies and young professionals) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th & 6th Aves, 206-7772

Spectrum (male and female strippers) 802 64th Street, Brooklyn, 718-238-8213

Saturday

Barefoot Boogie (smoke & alcohol free) 434 6th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts); 832-6759

***Boybar** 15 1/2 St Marks Place, btwn 2nd & 3rd Aves, 674-7959

The Center Dances (2nd and 4th Saturdays) 208 W 13 St, btwn 7th & 8th Aves, 620-7310

Private Eyes (Jeffrey Sanker & Dallas's Club Bad) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th & 6th Aves, 206-7772

Saint at Large (alternate Saturdays since Jan. 13) 105 2nd Ave., at 6th Street, 674-8541

Sound Factory (Acid House, no alcohol, doors open midnight) 530 W 27 St (btwn 10th & 11th Aves), 643-0728

Spectrum (guest performer night) 802 64th St., Bklyn., 718-238-8213

Sunday

Better Days 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

***Mars** (Chip Duckett's "Mars Needs Men" night) Westside Highway and 13th St, 691-6262

***Pyramid** (Hapi Phace and Drag + Variety Show) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6th & 7th Streets, 420-1590

Spectrum (show; free admission 9-10 pm) 802 64th Street, Brooklyn, 718-238-8213

Every Night

Grand Central (Rockville Centre, LI, closed Mon. & Tues) 210

Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI, 516-536-4800

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St. at Sheridan Sq., 924-3557

BEST BETS for Women's Dancing

NOTE: Party events are subject to change. Always call first to confirm.

Tuesday

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, 718-261-8484

Wednesday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516-486-9516

Spectrum 802 64th St. @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, 718-238-8213

Twenty/Twenty (Shescape, 5-10 pm) 20 West 20 Street (btwn 5th & 6th Aves), info 645-6479, club 255-6579

Thursday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516-486-9516

Spectrum 802 64th St. @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, 718-238-8213

Friday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516-486-9516

***Carmelita's** (Chip Duckett's Boy+Boy & Girl+Girl) 150 E 14 St

Cheeks 2000 Long Beach Road, Island Park, LI, 516-431-5700

Octagon (Shescape, end Jan. 19) 555 West 33 Street, btwn 10th & 11th Aves; 947-0400, 645-6479

Spectrum 802 64th St. @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, 718-238-8213

Roxy (Shescape, begins Jan. 26) 515 W. 18 St, info 645-6479, club 645-5156

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside, info 718-846-7131, club 718-899-9031

Saturday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516-486-9516

The Center (1st Sat., & special events) 208 W 13 St, 620-7310

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, LI, 516-354-9641

Spectrum 802 64th St. @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, 718-238-8213

Starz 836 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, LI, 516-242-3857

Twenty/Twenty (Shescape) 20 West 20 Street (btwn 5th & 6th Aves), info 645-6479, club 255-6579

Sunday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516-486-9516

Cave Canem (Sandwich Sister Sundays, Dega Productions)

Spectrum 802 64th St. @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, 718-238-8213

Every Night

Cubby Hole 438 Hudson St. @ Morton St., 243-9079

Duchess II Sheridan Sq. & 7th Ave South, 242-1408

All phone numbers are area code 212, unless otherwise noted.

* = TVs welcome.

Send corrections/additions to:

Rick X

P.O. Box 790

New York, NY 10108

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OW 30

OUTWEEK BAR GUIDE

WEST SIDE

Bike Stop West, 230 W. 75th St., 874-9014, Neighborhood bar, occasional entertainment.

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155, Friendly leather/western bar.

Cat's, 730 8th Ave., 221-7559, Older men, younger guys

Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788, Sing-along piano bar and cabaret.

Jason's, 23 W. 73rd St.

Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43rd St., 221-9152

Town & Country, 9th Ave at 46th St., 307-1503

Trix, 246 W. 48 St. (bet. Bdwy & 8th Ave), 664-8331, Cash and carry.

The Works, 428 Columbus Ave (at 81st), 799-7365, Cruisy west side crowd.

EAST SIDE

Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944, Sing-along piano bar.

G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752, Piano bar, mature crowd.

Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714, Neighborhood restaurant and bar.

Regent East, 204 E. 58th St., 355-9465

Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807, Friendly guys, checkbook romance.

South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave., 684-8376

Sid's Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710

EAST VILLAGE

The Bar, 68 2nd Ave. (at 4th St.), 674-9714, East Villagers and ACT UPers.

Boy Bar, 15 St. Mark's Pl., 674-7959, Dancing / Drag shows.

The Pyramid, 101 Avenue A, 420-1590, Dancing / Drag shows.

Tunnel Bar, 116 1st Ave (7th St.), 777-9232 W. Village crowd in the E. Village.

WEST VILLAGE

The Annex (to Cellblock 28), 673 Hudson St. (bet. 13th & 14th), 627-1140, J/O Club.

Badlands, Christopher & West St. , 741-9236, Cruisy waterfront bar.

Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684, Funky dive and juke joint.

Cellblock 28, 28 9th Ave, 733-3144, J/O club.

The Cubbyhole, 438 Hudson (Morton St), 243-9079, Neighborhood bar for gay women & men.

D.T.'s Fat Cat, 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041, Piano bar. Mixed M/F.

Duchess II, 70 Grove St (7th Ave.), 242-1408, Women.

J's, 675 Hudson St., 242-9292, J/O club.

Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672, Serving Coors, Coors Lite, & Coors Draft.

Keller's, 384 West St. (at Christopher), 243-1907, Friendly neighborhood crowd.

Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322, Piano bar.

The Locker Room, 400 W. 14th St. (9th Ave), 459-4299, J/O club.

THE FAX OF LOVE

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TO

(212) 779-4452. (Visa/Mastercard Only)

Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St. (7th Ave.), 243-9323, Sing-along piano bar.

The Monster, 80 Grove St. (7th Ave.), 924-3558, Piano bar & disco/dancing.

Nimbus 691-4826, Da lounge. **CLOSED**

Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204, Younger crowd.

Ramrod, 185 Christopher St.

Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830.

Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340.

Ty's, 114 Christopher St., 741-9641, Crispy neighborhood bar.

Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787, Huge video bar.

CHELSEA

Barbary Coast, 64 7th Ave. (14th St.), 675-0385, Friendly, neighborhood bar.

The Break, 232 8th Ave. (22nd St.), 627-0072.

Chelsea Transfer, 131 8th Ave. (bet. 16th & 17th), 929-7183, Neighborhood English pub.

Eagle's Nest, 142 11th Ave (21st St.), 691-8451, Leather / Levi's.

Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet. 5th & 6th), 206-7770, Dancing, Video Club.

Rawhide, 212 8th Ave., (21st St.), Leather / Levi's.

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496A Hudson Street, Suite G4 NYC 10014
(212) 989-1114

A diverse, non-partisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action to end the AIDS crisis. Gen. meetings Mon. nights 7:30, at the Community Center 208 W. 13th.

AOLC/APLN-NY

(Asian Lesbians of the East Coast/
Asian Pacific Lesbian Network-New York)

We are a political, social and supportive network of Asian Pacific lesbians. Planning meetings on the 1st Sunday and social events on the last Friday of each month. Call (212) 517-5598 for more information.

ARCS (AIDS-Related Community Services)

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BIWAYS NEW YORK

Monthly social events for the Bisexual community and friends. Call NYABN for details of upcoming events. (718) 853-8245

BIPAC (BISEXUAL POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE)

Political action on issues of importance to the Bisexual/Lesbian/Gay community. Monthly meeting/potluck held 8:00pm on fourth Thursday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. (718) 853-8245

BISEXUAL YOUTH

Informal social & support group for Bisexual kids/youth. Monthly meeting/potluck lunch held 1:00pm on fourth Sunday of the month at members homes. Call NYABN for this month's location. This group is part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

BLUS-BRONX LESBIANS UNITED IN SISTERHOOD

Social, political and support networking group for women and their friends. Regular social events and meetings on the first and third Fridays of every month. At The Community Center, 208 W. 13 Street, from 6:30-8pm. For more info call Lisa at (212) 829-9817.

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THE GAY AFRICAN AMERICANS OF WESTCHESTER(The G.A.A.)

is a community based support group formed in Westchester County. Various activities are planned for the coming months.

Please call 914-376-0727 for more info.

GLAAD

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 (212) 966-1700

GLAAD combats homophobia in the media and elsewhere by promoting visibility of the lesbian and gay community and organizing grassroots response to anti-gay bigotry.

GAY & LESBIAN HEALTH CONCERN

An office of the NYC Dept. of Health, provides linkages between NYC Health & Human Svcs, and the Lesbian & Gay community, focusing in ALL health concerns; resource information for health services consumers and providers. 125 Worth Street, Box 67, New York, NY 10013. For info call (212) 566-4995.

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GMAD(GAY MEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT)

80 Varick Street, NYC 10013 a support group of Gay Men of African Descent dedicated to consciousness-raising and the development of the Lesbian and Gay Community. GMAD is inclusive of African, African-American, Caribbean and Hispanic/Latino men of color. Meetings are held, weekly, on Fridays. For more information, call 718-802-0162.

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE

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212-645-7470 TDD (For the Hearing Impaired)

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HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS

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LESBIA AND GAY LABOR NETWORK
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METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)
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MOCA
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303 Ninth Ave., New York, NY 10001
or call (212) 239-1796.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE
is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action.
NGLTF 1517 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20009.
(202) 332-6483.

YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
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NINTH STREET CENTER
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NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)
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PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP
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Topical discussions on issues of interest to the community in a congenial atmosphere, followed by an informal dinner at a friendly local restaurant. Every Sunday, 3:00 - 4:30pm at the Community Center 208 W. 13 Street, NYC. Part of the New York Area Bisexual Network.

SAGE: (Senior Action in a Gay Environment)
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ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE
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For information, call (914) 626-3203.

WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE - COMMUNITY CENTER (WACC)
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THURSDAYS

	<i>Pride & Progress</i>	<i>January 18</i>
10:30 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gay Week in Review• Act-Up• GCN Close-Up• Sports• Lavender Health	Andy Humm and Gabriel Rotello interview Jeffery Braff, the new Executive Director of GMHC
11:00 pm	<i>The Right Stuff</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Naming Names• All About Women• Media Watch• Staying Out• Around the Country• Razor Sharp	Update on Gay Games 1994 From Houston: A report on ACT UP From Las Vegas: A hot car for the new decade

SUNDAYS

	<i>Men & Films</i>	<i>January 21</i>
11:30 pm	Reviews of male erotica along with interviews behind the scenes with film stars	Al Parker tells us how he put his foreskin back on. Scenes from <i>Sex, Lies, and Videocassette</i> . An interview with Dick Masters and clips from his film <i>Size Talks</i> .

MONDAYS

	<i>Be My Guest</i>	<i>January 22</i>
10:00 pm	Sybil Bruncheon hosts a panel game show with surprise guests. Frankie Loves Johnny An original gay soap opera.	More from Sybil's closet Episode #14: <i>I Love You Best</i>

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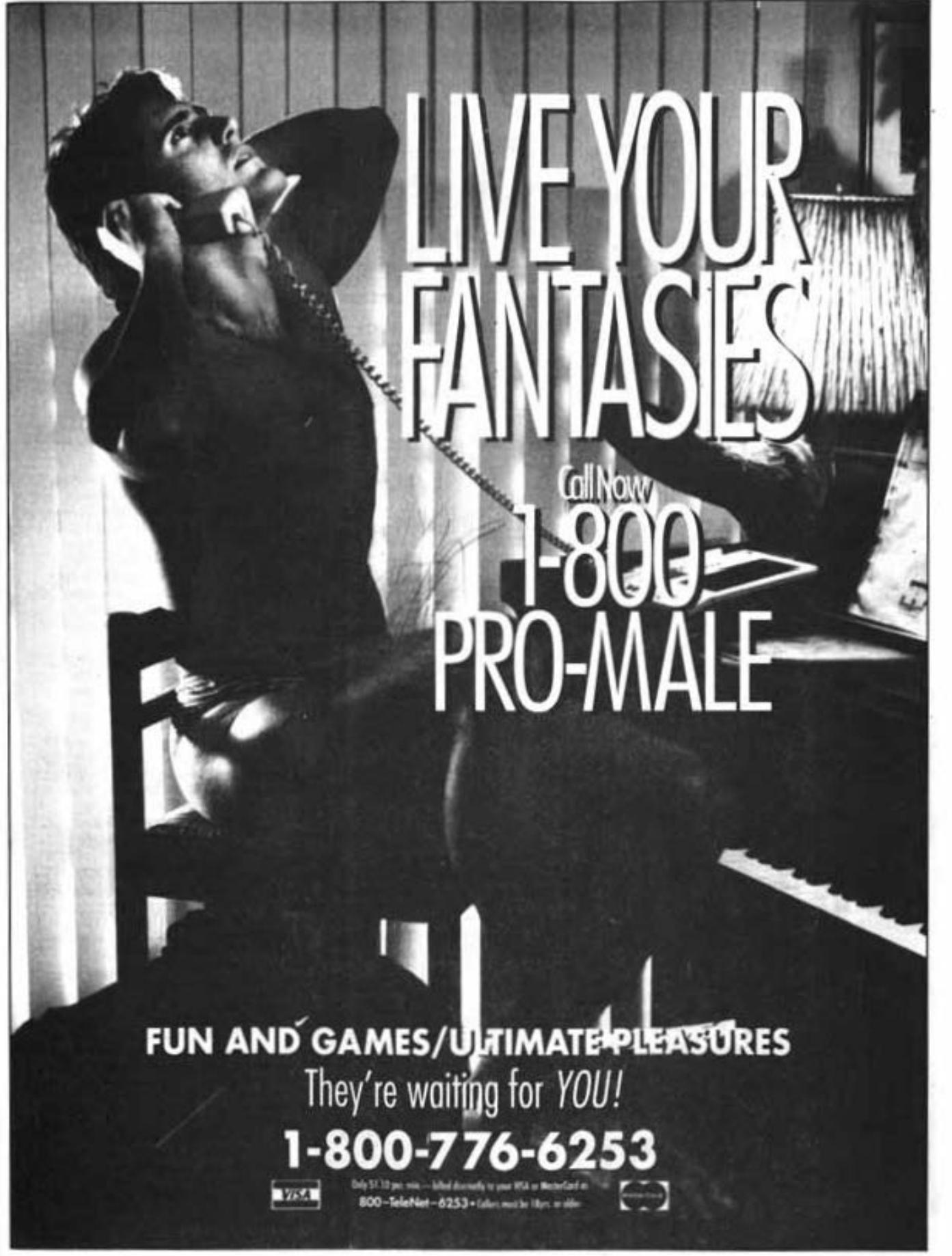
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MEN'S PERSONALS BEGIN ON PAGE 86

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MEN'S PERSONALS

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Latinos also. Special man for special man. Photo/letter: Box 680, 425 East 25th Street, NY, NY 10010.

QUIET BUT PASSIONATE

We haven't yet met because we both dislike bars and would more likely find ourselves at a concert, bicycling, or maybe at home with a good book. If you, like me are affectionate, good-natured, secure in your professional and emotional life, drop the book and write. I am a

CLASS ACT REQUIRED

GWM, 39-5'10"-145-brn. hndm seeks GWM who is worldly, tasteful and has grip on reality. Tired of self-impressed queens. Lkg for a man whose interests include s's on a regular basis + living a good life. You be 30-45, dk, hndsm-in-shape. Ph/ph to Outweek Box 1988

GWM, 37, 5'8", 145, attractive and in shape. P.O. Box 540, NYC 10163.

MANHATTAN U/LN. DUT

If you're in your late 40's-mid 50's, nice-looking, in good shape, intelligent, in great health, like being in the city but like weekends in the NY mountains, travel, gardening, outdoors, arts. A peer with the above qualities would like to meet you. Photo desc. ltr. address, phone gets reply. No fems,

alcoholic, drugs. Smoker, social drink, available weekend married or Bi with no problems o.k. POB 156 NYC 10156-0156.

LOOKING FOR LOVE IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES

Wanted: Young man single and free? Me too. They say you can't hurry love, but it seems to need a bit of help. GWM, 30-ish, cute, sexy and handsome is looking for same. My life is a combination of high profile activities as

well as quiet times at home. I am Romantic, love to cuddle and wake up next to a guy who is as special as I am. So stop in the name of love and write if you are interested in performing a duet. Outweek Box 1894

LOST HORIZONS

Have reached a major crossroads in my life. Would like to relocate to a saner, quieter place with stable loving man. Professional success but tire of needless stress and pointless competition. Long for simpler, less complicated life that is somehow richer and more grounded. Am attractive 34, 6'3", 170, of able mind and open heart. Would take great comfort sharing life and love with kindred man. Outweek Box 1904

PASSIONATE

Oriental M, 32, 5'5", slim, quite attractive, caring, low-keyed w/ down-to-Earth values seeks clean-shaven healthy Manhattan

WM 25-45. Maturity and honesty required. No drugs and games. Photo/phone/letter to Outweek Box 1900

PAL/ROOMMATE/LOVER?

Attr. GWM, blonde, mature, passive, sensual, HIV-N seeks similar masc. WM (20-40). Safe, relaxed, massage a plus. Quiet MDTN w apt. day/eve. No drugs/hustlers. Poss. serious rel. Can we talk? Radio City Station POB 366 NYC, 10101.

GREAT HEAD

GWM, 39, youthful, intelligent, gives head with unusual skill. You: Black/Latin/White, cut or short skin, avg or well-hung or good body. Detailed desc and phone to CPM, P.O. Box 6112, NY, NY 10163.

COPLES DELIGHT

WM, 46, 6'1", 175, European businessman seeks WM couples/duos clean-shaven 23-30 for hot nights on cold winter: good food, the-

atre, Broadway shows, safe sex. Graduate students, actors, artists, professionals write (ph/ph) P.O. Box 8324, NY 10150-1918.

HAVING SEX PROBLEMS?

Why not get together with this GW Irishman? I'm mature, professional and am kind and considerate, with good sense of humor. May I help solve your needs and show you love and caring with friendship in 1990? (18-25). Ph/ph # POB 278, NY, NY 11368.

KISS, CUDDLE AND HUG!

GWM (Irish/Spanish) has hot mouth to make love and satisfy your oral needs. My sensual piano hands will excite every nerve in your body. May I satisfy your needs and desires via sex symphony of love? Ph/ph POB 266, NY, NY 11369.

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pig only when you feel like it. ME too. And I'm attr, mid-30's, hung and insatiable. Tell me how you get really sloppy, buddy. Full letter/photo to POB 150, Prince St. Sta., NYC 10012.

GWM, 38, 5'10", 165
good build, bl/bl. Seeks same on LI and/or Queens for fun, friendship and/or relationship. Enjoy music, opera, theatre, walking, swimming, biking, dining out and shopping. Call after 7 p.m. (718) 454-2354.

HARD AND SOFT
Hard where it matters, soft when it counts. Hazel-eyed academic/writer, GJM, thirtysomething, 5'10", 160. Complex yet unaffected, intense, funny, lusty; reasonably self-assured and relatively lonely. Your interests in the arts, film, politics could complement mine. Ph/ph to Outweek Box 1911

POSITIVE ATTITUDE
GWM, 57", 155, br/gr, muscular, butch, friendly, very smart, 28 years old, HIV positive but healthy wants to meet a similar guy with a good attitude. I work out, bicycle, play jazz piano, like history, politics, cuddling. You: smart, cute, single. Photo/phone to Outweek Box 1912

I WANNA BE ROMANTIC

I wanna laugh and cry together. I wanna go to lunch-dinner-bed-Maui-anywhere with you! Let's dance around the apartment and take each other's clothes off. Let's make jokes about the French. We can order in Chinese food and make love during the four minutes it takes to deliver it. (How do they do it?) Finish our fortune cookies and return to bed to hug and watch the end of Pride and Prejudice. (old movies are great.) I'm 36, Libra, 5'9", 150lbs, Brn/Grn, GWM, Moustache, very handsome, if I'm your type. I like guys that are my size or bigger. You hopefully

can talk with your eyes and express in words how you feel about life, love, and your pursuit of happiness. Let's be for one another. I prefer men who don't smoke, drink heavily, or do drugs. (Life is too precious!) mid 30's-40's ok. Send Photo/Phone plus letter to Outweek Box 1816

HUNKY AND HORSEHUNG?

Handsome dark blond, 34, mustache, hairy chest, slender, and horsehung is looking for a muscular, masc, horsehung dude who'd get off on my hot butt-hole & muscular deep throat. Send photo to Box u902, New York, NY 10014.

HEALTHY HORNY
Handsome, hung, HIV+, looking for safe fun relationship not nec. 35 all American looks, reply let & photo. Specify desires - I'll call you. Outweek Box 1818

LUNCHTIME DEEPTHROAT

For horsehung dudes in 42nd/2nd vicinity by tall handsome profi. Call BJ at 691-3601, 9AM to noon and leave detailed message w/phone. I'll call back. Total discretion assured. No fats, serious only.

CUDDLE BUDDY

Gdkng clean-cut bookish spirit and sensual Anglo-Hisp M, 37, 6', 175, br;br, trim, gentle, artistic, insiteful and supportive, sks similar creative, cinshvn in-shape quietly masc. man who loves to be touched for exploring healing physical as well as spirit intimacy over just plain sex. Box 022045, Bklyn, 11202-0044.

HIV+, ATHLETIC

Goodlooking 40 year old profi, loving classical music and tennis seeks similar wonderful male. You: under 40. Photo/phone requested. P.O. Box 325 Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10011.

THIS NAUGHTY MAN
Male authority figure is

needed to teach this GWM respect. S/S. No drugs, pot, boozers, hustlers. Easy car parking/NYC outskirts. Write LSA, 147 W. 42 Street, office 603, NYC 10036.

BIG DADDY

Hot, Hung, GWM, 55, 5'11", 250lbs, loves companionship for dinner in the city and or kinky sex at my place in the suburbs or yours. Call btwn 7-10pm 914-528-1469 or write PO Box 1223 Peekskill, NY 10566.

LONG TERM COMPANION

GWM, 27, 6', 160lbs, Good looking, intelligent profi.. Really, seeking, long-term, companion and lover. I am creative, innocent, healthy, well-to-do, serious, but have good sense of humor. Photo PO Box 1157, Forest Hills, NY 11375.

CARING GUY SEEKS ANOTHER

GWM, 39, responsible and caring guy who enjoys simple pleasures, seeks another for a lasting, monogamous relationship. Write PO Box 1798, New York, NY 10009.

TIT & NIPPLES

GWM, 40, 5'8", 200 lbs, cone shaped tits loves to give & receive tit play into S/S send Ph/Ph to PO Box 20446, LTS, NY, NY 10011. My hot wet mouth is waiting to suck your chest, pecs, nipples.

TALL BROAD MEN

Do you need really exciting service by a hot WM, 33, 6'1", 185lbs, very hdsom, masc, wks out & sincere? Then - top or bottom - please call will, btwn 8pm - 12 mid, to meet in NYC (No phone j/o), for your regular locker room pleasure, total explosive action, and more, at (212) 675-7352.

STRONG LOOKING GUY

Athletic, intelligent GBM, 24, fun-loving, creative, attractive looking for a masculine, bright, sensitive, witty, free-spirit for

freindship & exploring relationships. I enjoy off-beat films, outdoors, writing, music from Gregorian to New Wave, long quiet walks skiing, and candle-lit eves. strong looks and personality a must (stocky, muscular, hairy a big +.) Let's meet! Pls send letter/phone/photo to OutWeek Box 1854.

ALTAR BOUND
GWM, 37, 210lbs, seeks GM for dating, movies, Broadway, quiet dinners, safe sex, possible relationship. All letters answered, received with current photo, letter, tel #, to: AB L.T.S. 20276, NYC, 10011.

1990 MAN OF THE YEAR!

YOURS: showbiz stud, 6', 185, yg 44, very hdsm & hung hero, lover, top pal w/ 2 dreamhomes, hairy chest, sexy smile! UR 22-38 and deserve the best. Photo a must: POB 1164, NYC 10159. HUNKY NEW YEAR! For 1990... & beyond!

YOUNG LATINS/BLACKS
GWM, 40, 5'10", 175, bottom looking for hot times with young Latins and Blacks. P.O. Box 147 Church St. Station, NYC, NY 10008.

LET'S GO SKIING
Gay couple, 30's, enjoy spending winter weekends in Vermont skiing. If you're interested in joining us, write Box 1248, Bowling Green Station, NYC 10274-1248.

SEEK SENSUAL CONTACT
w lush nipples, stiff and swollen, firm melon buns, massive arms, vice-like thighs and hot ss-but more important-to hold, kiss and touch. Someone at your side. Winter nights under blankets w/ wine. Animal passion w/manly tenderness, sharing morning shower, laugh and coffee. I'm GWM, 36, 5'10", 150 lbs., Brn/Brn, stache. I have lean tight runner's build. Send letter

w/ ph/ph and tell me about you. Cutweek Box 1860

STUD VOYEUR - SEX PIG

Wants your nastiest, raunchiest pix and stories for my whack-off collection. Send it all to: OutWeek Box 1869.

SEX WITH CELEBRITIES

Ever poked a public figure? Masturbated a Mega Star? Engaged in unnatural acts with an Anchorwoman? Send all the juicy details, innuendo, hearsay, and vicious rumor happily accepted. Anonymous ok. Wrt OutWeek Box 1870.

AFFAIR WANTED

28, GWM, with all the lust, greed, wit, charm and cerebral zest you'd need, see ks an out & out tawdry affair of convenience with an equally fun non-committal East Village clone type, purely for entertainment. Photo's encouraged. Write OutWeek Box 1871.

GLORY HOLE SERVICE

Hot, no nonsense cocksucker, 34, really gets down for major dudes hung bigger than me (10"). Looks, age, race unimportant, cock size is. Just be hot and ready for a rootmilkin you won't soon forget. DT assured. Serious calls only. No J/O no farts. Duke (212) 691-3601.

HANDSOME NYU STUDENT

Jock, 25, Italian, slim, athletic, clean-cut, gentle yet strong, fun, seeks attractive, submissive, femme-TV-TS to service me off. Campus after workouts/classes PO Box 20015, NYC, 10028.

CUTE, I'M TOLD, 35 year old pre-op TS, returning to NYC soon, seeks friend/lover, and possible roommate situation. I am tall (6') slender (155lbs) with smooth hairless body. Can be into most scenes as long as they involve me as passive bottom. Hon-

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esty a must. If you've considered a relationship with a sincere she-male, don't pass up this opportunity! I am a quality person and need a quality man in my life. Photo appreciated but not necessary. PO Box 1657, Greensboro, NC 27402.

BEND OVER AND SMILE

Cock needs satisfying on 6' GWM, 32, 165. Tell me how you want it in explicit letter. Prefer in-shape GWM 25-40. Assertive bottom a plus. No drugs. Photo mandatory. P.O. Box 7354, NYC, NY 10116.

CLASS ACT REQUIRED

GWM, 39-5'10"-145-brn, hndm seeks GWM who is worldly, tasteful and has grip on reality. Tired of self-impressed queens. Lkng for a man whose interests include s/s on a regular basis + living a good life. You be 30-45, dk, hndsm-in-shape. Ph/ph to Outweek Box 1988

GAY COUPLE IN EAST

Village (26+35) seek 3rd or other couples for fun in bed and out. We enjoy videos, Bway, and our neighborhood. Send photo and letter and phone. Come on, we know you'd like to try a threesome or foursome. We sure would! Outweek Box 1790

MIND OVER MATTER!

Can I believe that you'll be true? I'll give it a try with someone new. This considerably handsome GBM, 23, 5'9", is looking for some fun and action from you who might be the right guy. If you're a GBM, age 18-28, send ltr/phone and/or photo. Outweek Box 1983

TRUE AND WARM

GWM, 26, 6', 155 lbs., intelligent, fun, attractive, passionate, different, giving, artist, European...would love to fall in love again with bright GM of any style or race (who is real, out, progressive, giving and open to the possibility of a long-lasting, exciting relationship). Let's make each other laugh! Drop letter and pix to Outweek Box 1989

SIZE QUEEN

There are two types of gay men, size queens and liars. I don't lie. True bottom seeks big gun for safe sex, fun, possible relationship. Answer with explicit photo, letter, tel. # to JS, LTS 20053, NYC, 10011. I'm GWM, 210#, 5'11", hairy chest and butt.

CLEAN-CUT

Att WM, 26, 5'9", 145#, BR/BR, smooth, into Lit, film, art, music and spirit. Seeks attr, fit WM 28-42 w/ humor, heart and hair. Photo w/letter apprec. No fems or yup-pups. Outweek Box 1991

MUSCLE

v. gd.lkng., sane, GWM into BB's and muscle needs other muscle guys who get off on other bodybuilders for fun and possibly more. I'm 6'3", 34, musc., 185 and growing and wants to share muscle fantasies with the right guy. Photo helps. Outweek Box 1992

WEBER, RITTS AND ME...

Ever want to become a C.K. Boy? Amateur photographer looking for hot men for portraiture, briefs or nudes in exchange for photos. Send polaroid/phone

ORDER FORM ON PAGE 96

Safer Sex Guidelines

1. **USE A CONDOM WHEN FUCKING.** Avoid oil-based lubricants such as baby oil, Vaseline, Crisco etc., as they can cause condoms to break. Instead use water-based lubes like KY. The older a condom, the less reliable, so find condoms whose manufacturers' dates are less than three months old.
2. **USE A CONDOM DURING ORAL SEX.** If you don't, avoid placing the head of your partner's cock in your mouth. HIV-infected cum or precum can enter your bloodstream through cuts, tears or ulcers in your mouth.
3. **USE DENTAL DAMS DURING ORAL-VAGINAL SEX.** HIV is present in some amounts in vaginal secretions, urine, menstrual blood, and infection-related vaginal discharge.
4. **NEVER SHARE WORKS.** This includes needles, syringes, droppers, spoons, cottons or cookers. If you must reuse works, clean them after each use with bleach, or in an emergency with rubbing alcohol or vodka, by drawing the solution into the needle three times and then drawing clean water into the needle three times.
5. **AVOID FISTING, RIMMING, OR SHARING UNCLEANED SEX TOYS.**
6. **AVOID POPPERS.**
7. **AVOID EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL OR DRUG USE.** Many people are unable to maintain safer sex practices after getting high.
8. **DON'T HESITATE TO:** Fuck with a condom, have oral sex with a condom. Play with, but don't share, clean sex toys, vibrators and dildos. Enjoy massage, hugging, masturbation (alone, with a partner or in a group), and role-playing.

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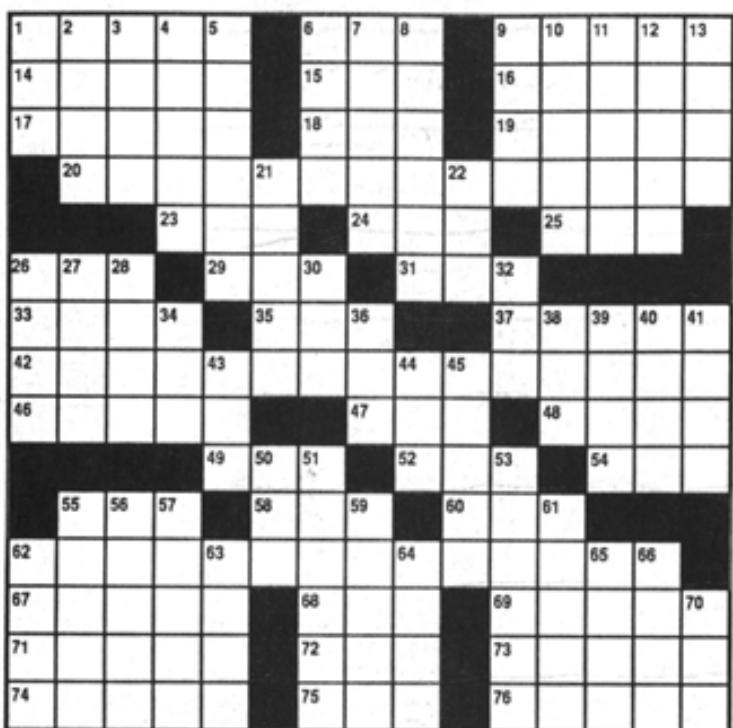
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- The thing's
- Racecourse circuit
- Butt
- John Phillip ____
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- Barrel
- Power film
- Walking ____
- ____ Johnson
- Author Gore
- Anc. Roman official
- Composers' org.
- Brit. word for catamite
- Lois and Abbe
- Unhappy
- Stallion

DOWN

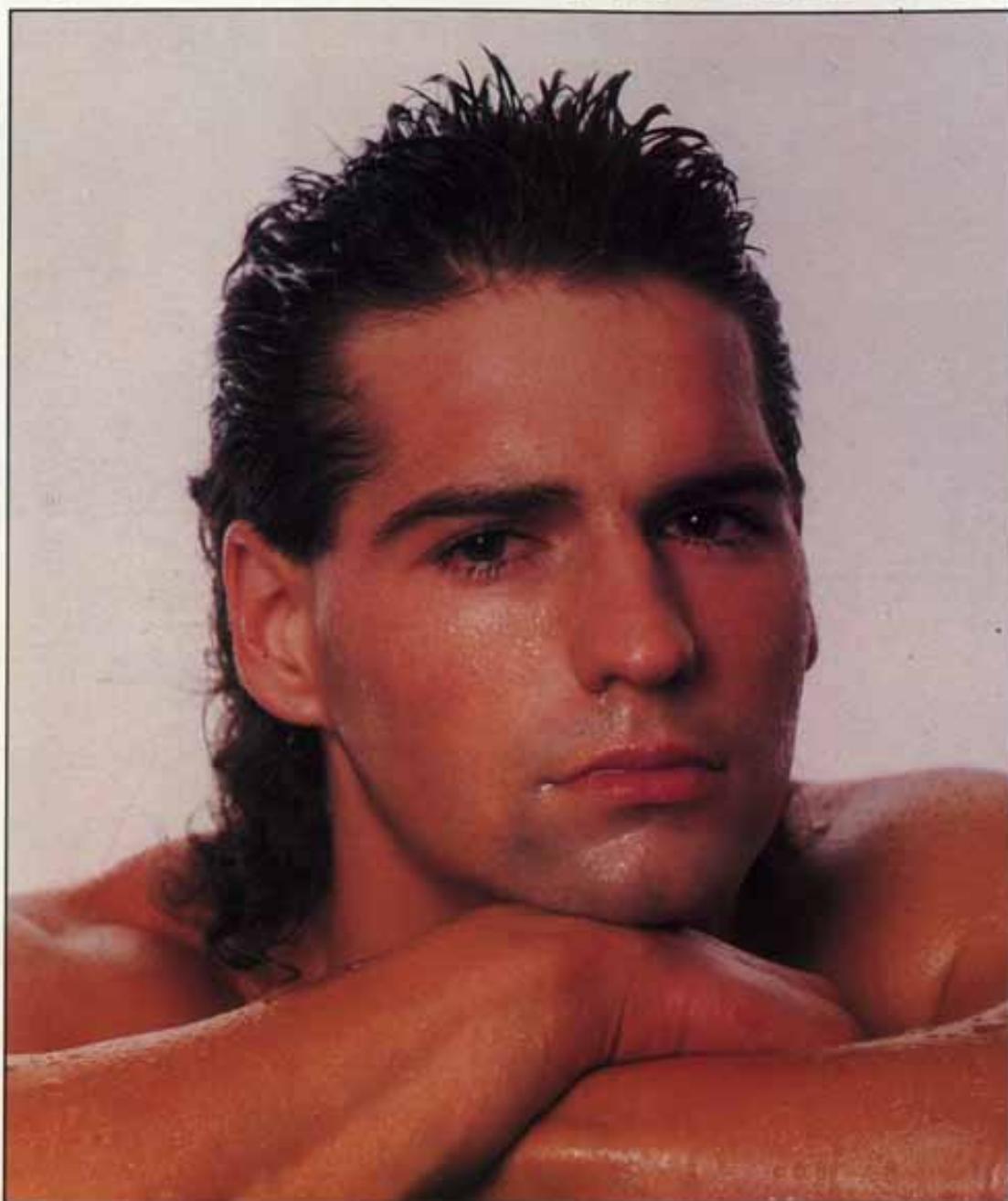
- Built (abbr.)
- Play by 10 Down
- Comb. form: corrective
- Start
- 9-to-5 worker
- Believe ____ not

- Pricks
- Bury
- Power film
- Gay playwright
- ____ jacket
- Unique things
- Card game
- Deck
- Zipper
- Actress Roman
- Arthur ____
- Fondle
- Actress Farrow
- Always (poetic)
- Compass pt.
- Pacino's
- Coq au ____
- Sailing
- Love Is* ____
- Jets abbr.
- Prefix: one
- Impresario Hurok
- City in Japan
- Cruise or Hanks
- Submissive ones
- Sexy skeletal area
- ____ Eastman
- Once more
- As
- Serious play
- Gleam
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